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SKIN DIVER MAGAZINE

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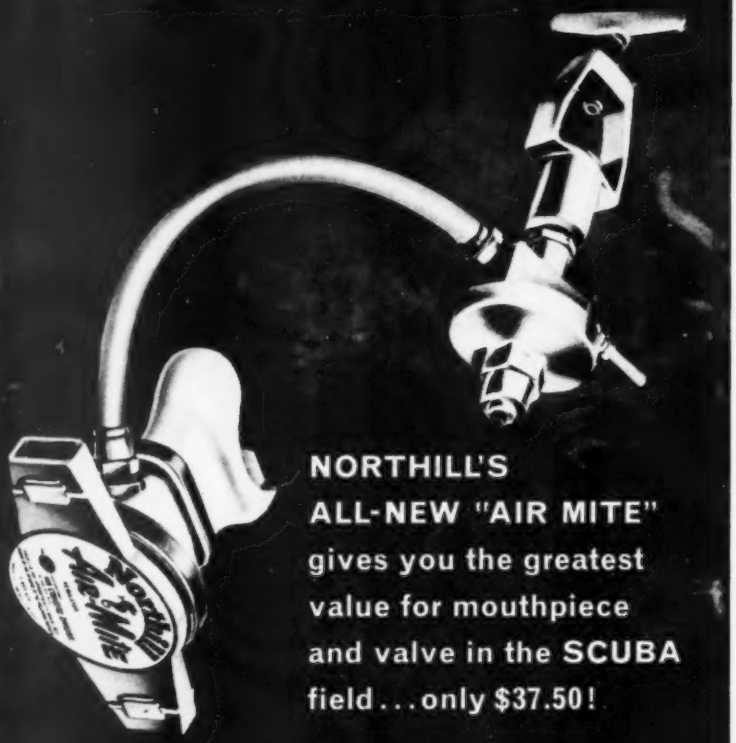
NEW!-"AIR MITE" DIVING LUNG



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You'll breathe a lot easier with the superior safety-plus performance of the all-new Northill AIR MITE. Write to us today for free literature.

If you live *east* of the Mississippi, write to the Fenjohn Company, Inc., 90 Cricket Avenue, Ardmore, Pennsylvania. Those living *west* of the Mississippi write The Garrett Corporation, Air Cruisers Division, Belmar, New Jersey.

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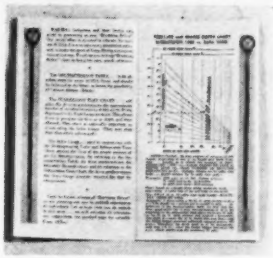

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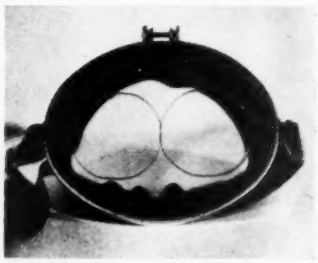

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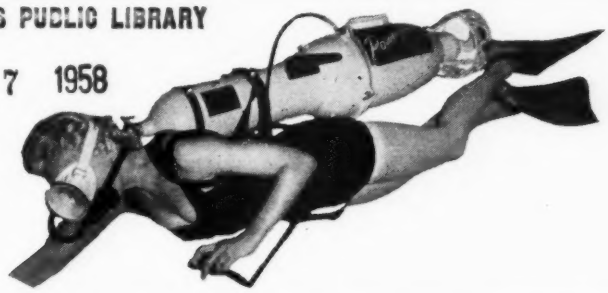

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Vol. VII — No. 7 — July 1958

SKIN DIVER MAGAZINE

LYNWOOD, CALIFORNIA, U. S. A.

Devoted to the Underwater World

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Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Lynwood, California

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EDITOR

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CONNIE JOHNSON
CIRCULATION

Closing Date for all copy is Forty (40) days prior to date of publication.

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Advertising Rates are furnished upon request, please identify company and product with request for rates.

Club Reports are submitted bi-monthly by club publicity representative, one typewritten page, double spaced, approximately 100 words per report.

Printed by Griffin-Patterson Co., Inc., Glendale, California.

Editorial offices at 10364 State Street, Lynwood, California

SKIN DIVER is published each month for underwater enthusiasts to create a further interest in skin diving and underwater spearfishing; to aid and advance scientific research through underwater swimming methods; to encourage and promote all types of activities participated in and caused by underwater swimming enthusiasts and to provide an advertising medium for manufacturers, distributors and dealers of marine products. All manuscripts, photography and materials are submitted free and released for publication, becoming the property of Skin Diver, unless previous copyrights exist. Authors and photographers should clearly mark all material submitted for publication so that credit may be given. The publishers do not necessarily agree with, nor stand responsible for, opinions expressed or implied by others than themselves.

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$4 One Year, outside U.S. Postal Zones.

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events dates places

Deadline coming up. July 18 is the final date that you can join the gang of west coasters on the Bahamas Greyhound Special. Thirty-nine passengers will rush aboard the air-conditioned bus in Los Angeles on Saturday, August 9 for fifteen days of vacation which include: three days by bus to West Palm Beach, Florida; a short flight over to West End, Bahamas; and then nine days of the best skin diving and spearfishing that the Caribbean can offer. July 18 is the final date that you can remit the full deposit of $100.99 to cover the bus and plane fare of this chance-of-a-lifetime opportunity. The main attraction of the trip will be the National Spearfishing Championships, the Women's Open Invitational and the International Open. July 18 is coming up soon. Act now!! Reservations may be made with John Geiszler at TO. 1-7308 and Kate Miller at EX. 8-3656 (Los Angeles phones).

The recent Star-Mop on the Federal Breakwater in Los Angeles was a tremendous success. All of the divers had a ball bringing up thousands of shell fish predators. The stars were later destroyed by the California Dept. of Fish and Game and old Sol. Pictures and story of the Fathomiers and the Star-Mop in the August issue.

Bob Retherford announced recently that there is to be a Star-Mop in the Laguna Beach-Newport area. Date and place haven't been decided as yet.

E. R. Cross, internationally-famous master diver, and crew have just sailed the "Four Winds" out of Honolulu for islands in the South Pacific. This is another leg of their round the world sailing-diving-research sojourn. Port-of-call before Honolulu was Acapulco, Mexico, where Cross prepared several diving manuals for the Mexican Government.

Many people have shown interest in salt water aquariums and the idea has been voiced to form a group of interested aquarium owners and others for the purpose of exchanging information, fish, marine animals, treatment, etc. Since there is a definite need for such a group an open meeting has been called for Thursday, July 17 in the Los Angeles area to form a Society temporarily named the Marine Aquarium Society of Southern California. Everyone is welcome to the open meeting to form the Society, meeting place and time can be obtained from Los Angeles phones WE. 4-2734 (G. R. Fawcett) and LO. 7-1367.

cover

Photographic proof that big power guns are not needed to get sizeable fish as recorded by the camera of Jordan Klein . . . and the pole spear was wielded by a mermaid. Betty Connell enticed the fish to her spear for our cover near West End, Bahamas, scene of the U. S. Nationals. Photographer Jordan Klein has taken hundreds of these excellent color pictures with his Mako equipment.

"aqua-lung"

DA "aqua-master"

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THE MOST ADVANCED, LIGHTEST BREATHING REGULATOR EVER BUILT.

The **"aqua-master"** is so good that we are discontinuing the manufacture of the former DA Navy Approved unit which is the best selling Regulator in the world!

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Each of these Cousteau-Gagnan "aqua-lung" Regulators is superior to any other Regulator in the world AT ANY PRICE.

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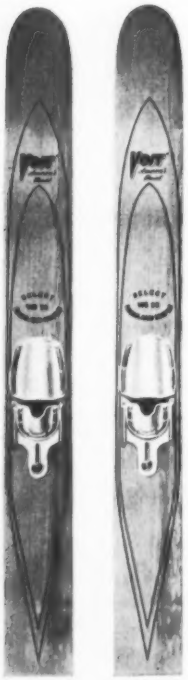
EXPLORER LUNG — Voit has a new regulator — The Explorer — that combines with a standard valve and single tank to deliver safe, superb scuba for less than $100.

The Explorer Regulator offers top performance with any tank assembly. Built-in automatic reserve in regulator provides reserve supply when used with non-reserve valve. The exhaust is designed to channel bubbles away from the face, assuring easy vision and easy breathing.



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Whot Hoppen?...

DIVING BOAT VANISHES IN GULF OF CALIFORNIA

By Charles Coates

I would like to tell of our plight in hopes that you or some reader will be able to help us. After reading the article in March "Skin Diver" about the Enchanted Islands in the Gulf of California we planned our vacation, the first week of June, for that area. On Thursday evening before Memorial Day the four of us—Al Hull, Tom Hull, Jack Pershell and myself left Salinas, Calif. for what we thought would be our greatest diving venture yet.

We had a 21 ft. cabin inboard with a generator, three compressors and three diving units aboard. We had bought and borrowed everything we thought we might need such as powerheads for the guns and two underwater cameras. We figured we would set up camp on or near the islands and make the first real good exploration of the area.

I guessed this trip was doomed from the start as we had five flat tires, all blowouts that had to be replaced before we ever got the boat in the water at San Felipe. We put in at San Felipe at noon Saturday and headed south.

We had a heavy load aboard and were about 55 miles south near sundown. We had hoped to make the islands that evening but heavy seas slowed us down and we knew it would soon be dark so we decided to put ashore. We brought her in to shallow water and took enough stuff ashore to cook supper and breakfast the next morning. Also we took our cots and bedrolls ashore.

Al took the boat back out to about 15 feet of water and anchored her with about 40 ft. of rope. We had a 13 pound Danforth sand anchor. The tide was coming in, it changes about 20 ft. down there, so we must have been a quarter of a mile from the boat.

As we prepared and ate supper it grew dark and we began to debate as to whether we could see the boat. After supper the moon came up and visibility was fair. We waded and swam out looking for the boat but we couldn't find it nor have we found it since.

Luckily we had brought five gallons

of water ashore with us so we were able to make it back to Puertacitus. I guess we were lucky to fare that well on a sea that has 20 to 30 ft. tides and storms that blow up with no warning.

That night there was a light straight out from where our boat was, how far we could not tell. Thus we don't know for sure what happened, whether it broke anchor or was possibly taken. Two airplanes that had come up from 50 miles south the next day had seen nothing of her. We have searched all the area north. The Mexican government has been notified but has done little if anything to help us. There is an argument now as to whether the boat was insured in Mexico, a matter we thought we had settled before we left.

Thus we could stand to lose the boat as well as the equipment which we have collected in years of diving. The only thing we can do now is wait for word from Mexico or possibly from the radio hams we have contacted to try to get through to some of those ports down there.

The Mexicans seem to think if she is still afloat it will have drifted south. We could hire an airplane to search the whole area but that would be gambling money against the fact that it may have gone down in deep water. At any rate let this be a warning to anyone taking a boat down there to have someone aboard at all times it is in the water. If you have any suggestions for us we will be glad to hear from you. Charles Coates, 16 San Carlos Dr., Salinas, Calif.

Description of Boat: 21 ft. cabin cruiser inboard, blue and white, name —Madolyn.

TEST FOR AMBERGRIS

One simple test for ambergris is to heat a piece of wire in a flame for about 15 seconds and then press it into the sample to a depth of 1/8 inch. If it is genuine ambergris, a dark brown to black, opaque, resinous liquid will form around the wire and appear to boil. Withdraw the wire and before the melted material on the wire cools, touch it with your finger. True ambergris will leave tacky, pitch-like "strings" sticking to the skin. When cold, the string of melted ambergris is shiny and resembles dark brown or black enamel. Place the wire, retaining portions of the melted material, into the flame again and the true ambergris will soon emit a white fume having the same characteristic odor as the solid, and then burn with a luminous flame. When the flame is extinguished, the smoke should have the odor of burning rubber.

You may also try to dissolve a little piece in a small quantity of hot wood alcohol (methyl alcohol), then allow it to cool. True ambergris will crystallize as the alcohol cools. Sea Secrets.

WHAT'S NEW?

UTILITY BOAT

Perfect for the diver and barrels of safe fun for the entire family.

It's light, tough—easy to store and to use. Double gauge laminated blue vinyl with "Tube-In-Tube" safety design. 8' x 4½'. 15" deep. Complete with Life-Line, Sea Anchor and Inflato-Bag.

Specially designed to accommodate Voit Air Mat to give added buoyancy and rigidity. Diagram furnished for building and installing seat.

TRIDENT GUN

Your best bet in dense sea growth, rocks or coral. Triple-barbed. 20" barrel.

EXPLORER REGULATOR—Built-in reserve. Combines with standard valve and single tank to give you safe, superb scuba for less than $100.

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Built for the expert in a wide range of prices, sizes and designs.

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LETTERS

. . . diving down here hasn't been very good these last two or three months because of rain but not too long ago we were really dragging in the catches. I bagged a 15 lb. Spanish mackerel one trip. On another trip Fred Robins speared a forty pound nurse shark and four lobster while I speared four lobster and a blue runner. Another diver on the trip shot a small sting ray. We're waiting for good weather and the holidays and then we're going to live in the ocean . . .!

Leland Screeton, Jr.
San Juan, Puerto Rico (Sharks)

. . . just a note to thank you very much for forwarding March and April SKIN DIVER. I was very much afraid that for the second time owing to break down, either by the firm I deal with here or labor government cuts, I would miss your copies. I never have been behind and assure you I never will. As it was I paid six weeks earlier than date. I am going to write the agency here and see if I can pay two years in advance. If it ever occurs again please advise me immediately, don't for God's sake stop copies. I would rather lose my under pants than copies of SKIN DIVER and I don't care who knows it.

F. H. Stewart
New Zealand

. . . upon reading the April issue of SKIN DIVER in the article by Eugene A. Shin, I noted with interest the mention of round bottomed blown glass bottles with the "Belfast" label. While stationed in Washington state I was a member of the Port Townsend Pile Divers.

Various members including Tom Benson of Newport, R.I., and myself found these same round bottomed bottles off the Olympic Ferry dock at Port Townsend. Also there were crockery bottles with Glasgow and Dublin stamped on them. I think this may be of interest to your readers.

Bill Harman
Charleston, S. C.

. . . I need the following copies of SD to complete my set of your magazines: Volume I, 1,4,12 and Volume II, 1.

I have the following copies to trade for them. This will make a complete set which I plan to bind and give to some worthy group. Volume I, 5; Volume III, 7,8,11,12; Volume IV, 1,4,6: Volume V, 2,5,11.

Bill Getty
521 S. Flower
Santa Ana, Calif.

. . . Universidad Central De Las Villas, Santa Clara, Cuba. This University just organized a "Skin Diver Team" that will involve fishing, photos, and investigation activities. We would like information from you regarding equipment we can buy like portable Compressors, camera for photos and for 16 mm movies, and fishing equipment.

Please write us your opinion and place a note in the magazine asking for information, note contribution and if some one would like to be a member of this Skin Diver Team, that we will call "Central University Skin Diver Team".

Any one of your readers who would like to be a member or to send information or to know something about us can write to:

Prof. Oscar Esparza Jr.
Central University Skin Diver Team.
P. O. Box 136.
Santa Clara, Cuba.

. . . We are interested in doing a lot of underwater exploring around the Coastal waters of Florida during the last two weeks of this coming August.

Accordingly, we would appreciate it if some of our fellow SKIN DIVER readers who live in Florida or who have taken skin diving vacations there could give us some tips as to where the best diving places are (with and without lungs) and—mainly—where the least expensive accommodations can be found.

This will have to really be a budget vacation, so any information we receive will be greatly appreciated. There will be three in the party; my wife, a friend, and me.—Also—possibly my 18 month-old son!

Gene Tinker
72 Hazelton Circle
Briarcliff Manor
New York

. . . I would like to appeal, through your widely read columns, to the thousands of skin and scuba divers around the world for their assistance and cooperation in reporting all diving accidents which they experience or witness.

For years the U. S. Naval Experimental Diving Unit in Washington D.C., has been collecting and analyzing most military and some civilian diving accidents from around the world for the purpose of establishing better and safer practices in diving. The rapid increase in amateur diving has swelled the numbers of divers and multiplied many times the number of dives performed annually. In order to maintain the accuracy and significance of the analysis of diving casualties, any serious accident (eg bends, embolism, drowning, attacks by marine life, serious injury, etc.) experienced or witnessed by any member of the growing diving fraternity should be reported to the E.D.U., in as much detail as possible if it is to be of value. This report should include, depth and times of dives, conditions of the water, decompression required and given, symptoms, treatment, physicians reports if available, etc.

Such information would make the Experimental Diving Units results more accurate and thus increase the benefit to everyone in diving.

PAUL G. LINAWEAVER JR.
LT, MC, USN
Assistant Medical Officer
Experimental Diving Unit
U.S. Naval Gun Factory
Washington 25, D.C.

. . . We goofed! The Sub-Committee Diving club of the Central Branch YMCA, Washington, D.C. would like to go on record in your files (too late for publication, we know) as being an existent and active group.

We have twenty active members and eight honorary members. Among our active members are ten certified instructors. Our honorary members (all certified divers) include three doctors: two from the U.S. Navy Experimental Diving Unit, a diving research physicist, a breathing gases expert from

(Continued on page 10)

World's Most Complete Skindiving Headquarters

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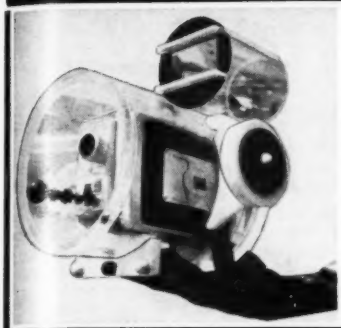
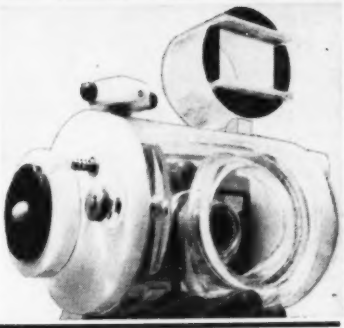


FAMOUS MAKE CAMERA & HOUSING

Central brings you 2 famous cameras complete with housings pressure tested to 75 ft.
The 8mm Movie Camera is a famous make that lists for $39.95. It has an F 2.3 lens. Uses any magazine black and white or color film.
The 35mm is a quality camera that lists for $39.95. Comes complete with lens cover and leather carrying case. A precision 3.5 lens with speeds up to 1/200 makes this camera ideal for black and white or color photos.
The Housings for both are made of the finest ½" & ⅜" plexiglass. They are beautiful multi-colored housings using clear white, red, black, and yellow plastic, worth every penny of the original list of $69.95. All controls are double "O" ring sealed. Both Housings come with tunnel sight frame finder and large easy grip handles.
Camera is easily removed for regular photography.

Reg. $109.90—35 mm Camera with housing $69.95
Reg. $109.90— 8 mm Camera with housing 69.95
HOUSINGS FOR ANY CAMERA MADE TO ORDER.



UNDERWATER SPOTLIGHT

Central brings you the famous type 40,000 candlepower lite used on the Andrea Doria completely pressurized and guaranteed. Lowest price in the country. Only $8.95.
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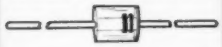

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Southern Oxygen Co. and the editor of "The Science of Skin and Scuba Diving".

Our main endeavor has been to perfect skin and scuba diver training. Personal field enjoyment has been sadly lacking because of the volume of time contributed to developing techniques and training newcomers. We've lost the opportunity to include many good divers in our ranks because of the dedication to this endeavor. Have your readers any suggestions?

Included in this letter are samples of our course certificate, instructor's certificate, club card and emblem for your archives. CNCA is our mother organization, hence our endeavor to make the sport safer and wide spread.

We would like to hear from other clubs, especially those having similar activities and problems. Address all correspondence to our club president:

William H. Steuart
300 - 34th St., S.E.
Washington, D.C.

Orchids to SKIN DIVER, your efforts and understanding of a many faceted sport and science have done much to enlighten the general public and, even more important, those who have sought to suppress the continuation of many of the pursuits of divers. Keep up the good work and don't change anything except to make it bigger and better.

Jim Young
Washington, D.C.

. . . We would appreciate it very much if you would include our club name on the club roster. Thanks very much for entering our club emblem on the front cover of the May issue.

Nevada Desert Divers, Inc.
c/o Loring Persighel
2300 Prater Way
Sparks, Nevada

. . . Some time ago Jean (Kauanui) Van Dyke and myself had quite a discussion about grinding prescriptions in face mask face plates. She supplied an article from your magazine showing where an optician had actually ground a prescription in the form of two indentations in the face plate glass.

I was shocked at this because of the fact that it rendered the face plate no longer a hardened lens and also because only a near sighted person would benefit. No far sighted or astigmatic persons could be accommodated.

Skin diving is no new thing to the islands and I have been grinding prescription goggles and face plates for a good many years but have never had to restrict them to the miope only.

The goggle is no longer used so I will direct my information to the problem of the diving mask. We have long since found that the simplest and most practical method is to grind the complete prescription, whether it be near or far sighted or with mixed in astigmatism or even a prism thrown in to complicate matters, but grind it on a flat form with the outside of the lens completely plano in curvature. It is then a simple matter to use balsa cement and by heating both the lenses and the face plate, cement the lenses in the desired position and let cool. Special attention must be paid to inter-pupilary distance and axis of the astigmatic error. Also it is wise to take note of head position when diving and judge about where the line of vision will be cutting through the face plate and locate the lenses there.

For those divers who either find their best hunting in deep caverns or who live in locations where there is not too much sun shine, these lenses can be ground from a lens called "Novial". This is a trade name and there may be others but it can be identified by its bright yellowish color and the fact that it is referred to as a shooting glass. This remarkable lens has the ability to make dark places appear to be very bright, the theory of which I won't go into here. One of the men in the lab wears this lens with the greatest of success even though he has no correction in it.

If any of the foregoing has been difficult to understand, an optician will be able to clarify it for you and it is really the optician who I wish to inform as he is the man you will be asking to make the prescription diving mask.

You may wonder why one who specializes in the fitting of contact lenses chooses this means of satisfying his diving patients and I will be happy to explain. Contacts are a wonderful device and certainly there are a lot of skin divers who wear them while diving and are happy with the results but I think that a check will show you that there are many other reasons for that particular person's need for contact lenses. For skin diving alone, there is neither the motivation nor the consistency of wearing to make them practical. Contacts must be worn much of the time to enable the wearer to wear them comfortably and for prolonged periods of time. Also, contacts can be lost in the water. In general, I would say 'no' to the diver who wants contact lenses unless he also has other more compelling reasons for wanting them.

J. C. Tannehill
Contact Lens Specialist
Honolulu, T.H.

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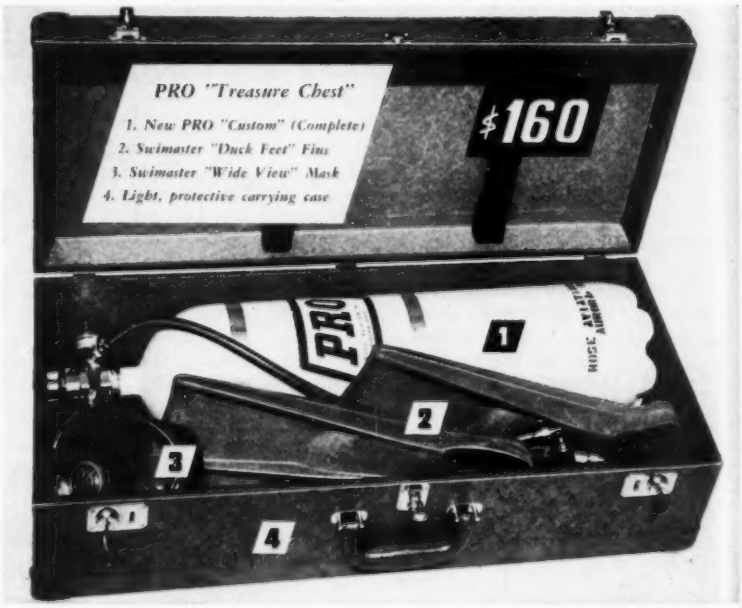
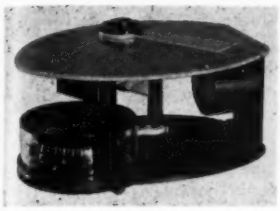


ALMOST EVERYTHING FOR THE SKIN DIVER



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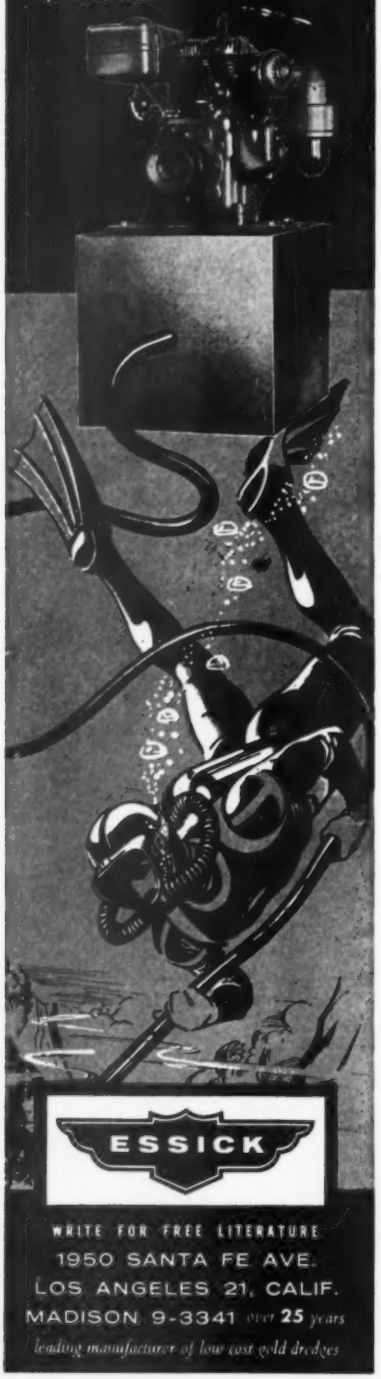

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NORTHEAST NOTES

By B. W. LUTHER, JR.

Northeast Council of Skin Diving Clubs,
P.O. Box 225, Fairhaven, Mass.

The Northeast Council held its Second Quarterly Delegates Meeting April 20th at Council Headquarters, Worcester, Mass. Member clubs present included: Andover Sports Divers, Bay State Aqua Club, Boston Sea Rovers, the Fathoms, Fairhaven Whalers, Little Rhody Sea Imps, Lowell Underwater Explorers, Maine Dolphins, Maine Marine Alpine Club, New England Divers Frogmen Club, Northeast Cine-Divers, South Shore Neptunes, Worcester County Spearfishermen, and the Worcester Frogmen.

Brad Luther

The Council was asked to contact the District Coast Guard Office to see what further action can be taken concerning the acceptance of our "Divers Flag." Under a proposal presented by Director Percy Kingsley, member clubs were requested to join local sportsmen's councils for the advancement of the sport and to create goodwill.

The President informed the group that the Connecticut Council will handle the East Coast Spearfishing Meet this year, and that the Northeast Council in conjunction with the other Councils in the East Coast region will hold eliminations to determine who will be eligible to enter the East Coast Meet. The Northeast Council's Tournament Committee is busy planning the Elimination meet together with other scheduled meets. The Fairhaven Whalers held a Treasure Hunt June 8th, and the Northeast Cine Divers are holding a season long underwater photo contest.

Walter Feinberg, of the Boston Sea Rovers, outlined his club's plan concerning the standardization of instructor courses. Neal Hess, of that club, and a qualified instructor himself, is preparing a pamphlet which will cover a plan for instructor courses. When approved by the Northeast Council and the Department of Safety, the course will be given to those wishing to become qualified instructors.

After refreshments, the divers were entertained by Gerald Comeau, of the Bay State Aqua Club, who showed slide pictures taken at the New England Sportsman Show in which his club had a display booth.

* * *

The Northeast Cine Divers will hold a season long underwater Photo contest starting June 1st, and ending September 1st. The contest is open to all divers in the Northeast area, and the club plans another grand "Underwater Photography Evening" in the Fall to award the winners of the contest with their prizes. Equal prizes will be awarded in black and white and color. For contest rules and more particulars contact: Northeast Cine Divers, Paul F. Hennessey, Secretary, 793 Lynn Fells Parkway, Melrose 76, Mass.

* * *

The Bay State Aqua Club Divers Flag leaflet appeared in the magazine "Popular Boating" on page 105 of the May issue.

* * *

At the yearly election of the Aqua-

(*Continued on Page 15*)

Second Quarterly Delegates Meeting of the Northeast Council. Shown in the picture are, back row left to right, Paul Kenneally, Frank Sanger, Fred Calhoun, Percy Kingsley. Front row, Joseph Gallant, Brad Luther, Richard Myers and Leonard Saarinen. Photo by Jerry Comeau

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BOOK #1 ..... $1.95

American Seashells
by R. Tucker Abbott
This beautiful big book, 541 pages plus 80 pages of color and black plates, paintings and drawings, covers definitive identifications of some 1500 varieties on Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf Coast shores.
BOOK #2 ..... $12.50

Skin Diving and Exploring Underwater
by John Sweeney
176 pages, 8 illustrations. In this handy manual you're told exactly, what systems, practices, precautions and techniques the sport of skin diving demands. Explains how to use flippers, snorkel and face mask for simple dives and gives complete instructions on using the Aqua-Lung.
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Diving for Science
by Lynn Poole
A different book on diving, tells of diving as an important type of scientific research. Discusses latest findings in the fields of underwater mineral and oil deposits, exploration of sea caves, charting fish migration.
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by D. M. Owen
Underwater divers find this practical and realistic book complete on the mechanics and hazards of diving with self contained underwater breathing apparatus. Includes full discussion of the physiological aspects of diving.
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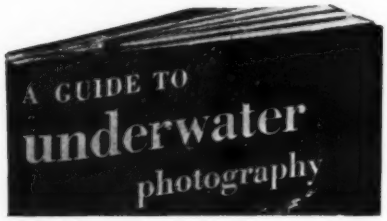

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Everything a diver needs to know to insure safe and scientific diving. Written by Army and Navy authorities, medical specialists and experienced divers and trainers. Information on medical aspects of diving, gases used for scuba, repairs, currents, first aid.
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The Naked Warriors
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The Blue Continent
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Men and Sharks
by Hans Hass
Adventures of Hans Hass and group in the coastal waters of Greece. The expedition was both a scientific field trip and a motion picture venture by which the author hoped to demonstrate his thesis that sharks are not really very dangerous to humans.
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Diving to Adventure
by Hans Hass
The early underwater foot-steps of the famous author from his first swim, his first goggles on the French Riviera, meeting Guy Gilpatric, and his wonderful experiences in the West Indies with spear and camera. Originally published in 1947.
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Lynwood, California

NORTHEAST NOTES

(*Continued from Page 12*)

teer Diving Club, Raymond Joly, 350 King Street, Easthampton, Mass., was elected as President; Vice President, Richard Waken; Secretary, Raymond Morin; Treasurer, Saville Crabtree, and Shirley Crabtree as Publicity Agent. The diving classes held at the Williston Academy Pool have had 28 students in attendance this past season. The classes are open to anyone, and are a part of the club's policy to teach diving.

The Bay State Aqua Club has recently joined ranks with about ten other clubs in this area in affiliating with a local Civil Defense Team.

Three new member clubs were added to the roster of the Northeast Council. They are the newly formed Little Rhody Sea Imps, of Providence, R. I., and two old established clubs The Lowell Underwater Explorers and the Andover Sports Divers.

Neal Hess and Walter Feinberg, of the Boston Sea Rovers, held a special meeting May 9th, at the Sidney Hill Country Club, Newton, Mass. for the purpose of establishing an official underwater instructor's course. The voluntary panel consisted of: Dr. Eugene C. Stone, M.D.; Dr. Guido Majno, M.D.; Lt. William Owens and Sergeant Robert Lynch, Mass. State Police; Fred Wilbur, Mass. Dept. of Natural Resources, James Cahill and Harry Marr, Diving Equipment Supply; David M. Owens, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute; V. I. Pitstick, Education; Dr. Harold Edgerton, Professor of Electrical Engineering, Harvard; Richard Myers and Brad Luther, President and Secretary of the Northeast Council, and Frank Scalli, President of the Boston Sea Rovers.

It has been recommended by this panel that a standardized instructor course be placed in effect in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to help eliminate accidents, bad publicity, perhaps future state control, and for the good of the sport. A proposed program was presented and in future gatherings this plan will be accepted and placed in operation.

The course will be Council sponsored and will be conducted through an advisory board of experts. It is hoped that once in force that other states will follow basically the same plan and make this a nation wide policy. Neal Hess, founder of the plan, is a graduate of the Los Angeles County Underwater Instructor Course.

The third quarterly Delegates Meeting of the Northeast Council of Skin Diving Clubs, Inc., will be held July 20th, at Council Headquarters, 275½ Lake Ave., Worcester, Mass., at 1:00 P.M.

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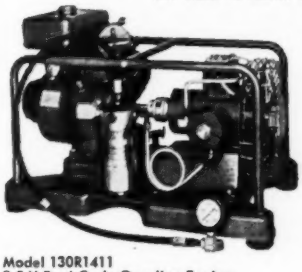

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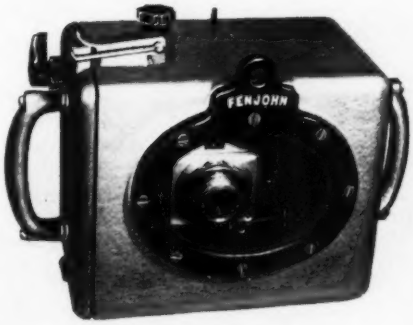

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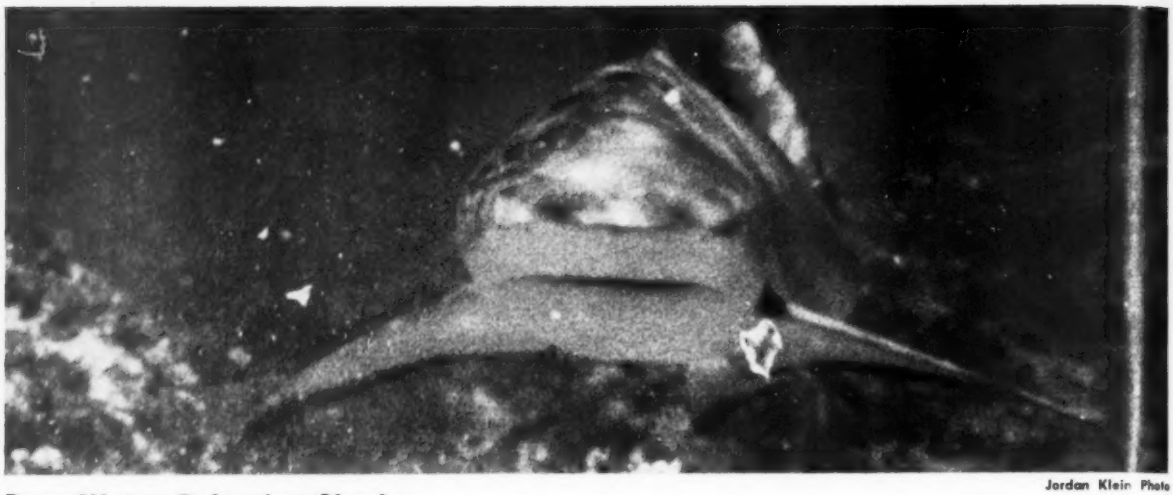


Jordan Klein Photo

Deep-Water Bahamian Sharks . . .

DANGER, STAY AWAY

By Stuart C. Law

Meeting sharks is hardly news any more. In fact the prevailing attitude seems to be that sharks are relatively harmless creatures which can be wrestled with, photographed, scared away, or ignored. This may be true of sand or nurse sharks but it should not be applied to the large and vicious killers which inhabit the deep ocean waters of the Gulf Stream. Any diver meeting these sharks, which usually travel in groups, has probably made his last mistake. This applies particularly to divers in the Bahamas area near the Gulf Stream which is infested with swarms of such sharks. In light of the fact that many divers from other areas will be in this area for the A.A.U. championships on Grand Bahamas Island, the author's recent harrowing and lucky experience may be helpful in keeping divers away from deep water and getting them to stick to reefs and shoals less than sixty feet in depth.

First, a word about the area.

The western rim of the Bahamas from Grand Bahamas Island south including Bimini, Gun Key, Cat Key and other small islands, borders the Gulf Stream which flows from south to north at about three miles per hour. On the Bahamas side, the Gulf Stream runs about 1½ miles off shore and in some places even closer. It is deep—hundreds of fathoms even at the edge—and is easily marked by its deep blue water. Along much of this area is a shelf with a depth of about forty to sixty feet. The shelf drops off sharply into the bed of the Gulf Stream, more or less in the manner of the La Jolla canyon.

Since most Bahamian waters are too shallow to warrant using lungs, some of the divers attending the championships who want to take time off to do some lung diving might be expected to head for the deeper water in the vicinity of the Gulf Stream.

Unfortunately, it is precisely these waters which are swarming with large ocean sharks. The tuna sportfishing boats, which troll up and down the edge of the gulf stream, frequently lose one out of every two tuna to sharks, as a matter of daily occurrence. Bait is not put out until a tuna school is sighted, to avoid losing it to sharks. On the other hand, the shelf, and other shallow areas, at least that part not right at the edge, is claimed by the tuna captains to be relatively free from sharks; a tuna is considered safe once it can be worked in the shallow water of the shelf.

The sharks are deep water sharks, large (10-15 ft. long), who will viciously attack caught tuna in a matter of minutes, and who live in an environment which, because of its relative lack of fish, makes them more or less constantly hungry. They are nothing to fool with or photograph; to do either is to risk a particularly horrible death.

It is an awful feeling to be in the water with them.

After a morning session of skin diving, off South Cat Key on a chartered sailboat, I decided to take my one and only lung dive of the trip, and since the only deep water was straight out from shore, due west, out we went. To spot the point where the shelf ended, I trailed behind the boat with mask and snorkel, though this is actually unnecessary, since the color of the water changes noticeably to a dark blue at the edge of the shelf. Below, the landscape may just as well have been the moon; no signs of life whatever.

Thinking the shelf sloped gradually into deeper water, I overshot it intentionally, climbed aboard, and put on the gear. I was told that the water was at least 400 feet deep, but figured that in any case I could go down a way, enjoy the color of the striking blue water, and then come up. Unfortunately, I had no way of knowing that one of the tuna boats within a half mile distance was even then having its catch attacked by a swarm of sharks. They had seen me towed, and news of this had been immediately talked about on the radio between the various boats (who, I learned later, assumed that I must know what I was doing). In any case, I jumped in, alone and without gun or knife, and headed down for a bounce dive.

Diving alone will no doubt raise eyebrows; however, the only other diver on board, Pat Smith, a fellow lawyer from Washington, D.C., was inexperienced, and our schedule made it unlikely that a similar chance would arise before the end of the trip. The water was a brilliant deep blue, turning darker suddenly at about 180 feet, a depth which I had fixed for the maximum and which I knew from experiences I could take with only medium narcosis.

So far, no problems. Suddenly, from behind (I was in a standing position, having sunk slowly in a more or less inert fashion) a large shark made a fast rush, veering aside only at the last minute, and brushing by my right side within a foot. I assume his pass at a lifeless blob of meat had been changed by some movement on my part, or perhaps by the air stream. In any case, after a quick look showed that it was no porpoise, I ascended to about fifty feet a good deal more quickly than is ever suggested by any diving manual, making sure that the shark was not following.

Surfacing, I told the charter captain what I had seen, and was told that it

wouldn't hurt to stay in the water. This was a grave tactical error, on both our parts. I decided to get a tow in behind the boat to where the shelf became visible, with the thought of diving the shelf. To tell the truth, in my state of mild well-being induced by the depth, I did not take the shark particularly seriously at the time I saw it (even though now I realize that he may very well have been intending an attack until the last minute) and this attitude persisted even after the narcosis had gone.

Wearing the lung, but still without speargun or knife, I headed in at the end of the tow rope. Within 45 seconds, a large shark, presumably the same one, appeared close on my right, circling. I called to the boat and, realizing that I had a much better chance under water than on top, cleared my mouthpiece and dived to about eight feet. The shark had by now stopped circling, and headed slowly for me, at about three miles an hour. It came within three feet, face to face with a very frightened diver.

I can speak from experience that in such circumstances articles such as appeared in a recent issue of SKIN DIVER, telling what to do when confronted by sharks, are remembered and the lessons applied. I figured that if I turned and ran, or if I surfaced, that I would probably be attacked, and that I had nothing to lose from a bold attack of my own. Accordingly, I swam toward him, and he slowly turned away. Size is always tricky to estimate under water, but my careful guess is between ten and twelve feet. The snout, viewed head on from such a close distance, is remarkably broad. The eyes look small and mean and the back was grey. Seen from the side, the nose tapers to a point, and the top portion of the tail, a crescent, is half again as long as the bottom part.

But these details do not really tell what it is like to be close to a large shark; actually, it looks huge, frightening, and so strong that about all one does is hope that it will not decide to attack. The thought is always present that the shark will suddenly charge and that a terrible bite will follow. Primarily, one tries to avoid doing anything that will touch off an attack, or present a fleeing target.

Bluffing the shark (which I am convinced is a successful method of dealing with one shark) was followed immediately by a sight that caused me to think that I had no chance at all: the second shark. Now it became impossible to keep both in sight, and they began circling, quite close, and quite bold. It is impossible to describe the despair and fright, that one feels when sharks seem to be swarming everywhere. I felt that it would be a matter of perhaps only a minute before one became bold enough to take an exploratory bite, and that other sharks could be expected momentarily.

So, much as I hated to turn my back on any one direction for any length of time, there was nothing to lose by heading for the boat, particularly in light of the sharks' circling. The boat had been turned around, and I could see the hull in the distance, about 30 yards away. I headed for it, still slightly submerged, thinking primarily of how to get up the ladder without inviting attack. What remained of my air supply was running out, principally from the fact of excessively rapid breathing, plus the deep dive. Finally, I made the rudder and prop area, and grapped a chain running from the hull to a stern-sprit. I never thought I would welcome being next to a turning prop, but it seemed like an old friend. I was told, after recuperating, that as I passed around the stern, a shark which made me seem small by comparison, had passed in a rush within two or so feet of my fins.

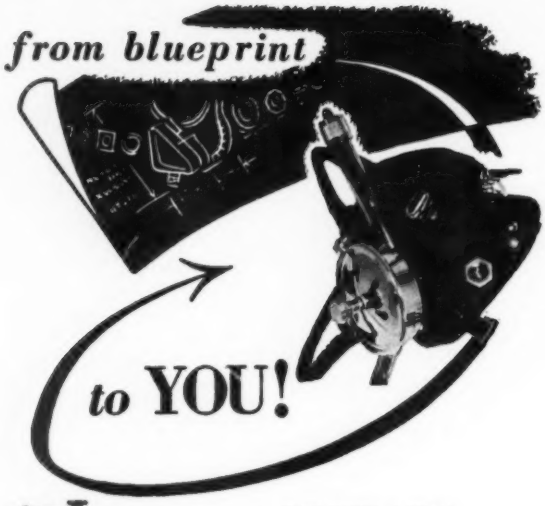
The upshot of this story, which could so easily have led to tragedy, is that I have revised to some extent my previous notions about sharks. I am convinced that ordinary grey ocean sharks can and will attack divers if the sharks are present in groups of two or more. These sharks did not hang in the distance, or go away; they began circling, and exhibited no doubts whatever about me. I think it is folly to say that only X or Y species will attack, when speaking of deep water ocean sharks. Probably the strains are not wholly pure, and all are apt to be hungry. From a shark's point of view, the diver is a fish, who is not swimming fast, and who must therefore be either wounded or just inherently slow, in either of which cases, he can be easily attacked.

By all means keep below the surface, and be aggressive. This may very well have saved me, and probably did. *Think;* fright need not mean panic; it may even help clear thought. I think noise (I completely forgot about shouting, and had nothing to bang on my tanks) would help and probably would not hurt. A spear to use as a jab would have perhaps been nice, though I probably would have been reluctant to irritate the sharks unless a serious rush were made. A knife is better than nothing, but would be of limited value in a situation where there was more than one shark. Shark repellant is a thought though I have had no experience with it.

Other divers present would be of immeasurable help if they were experienced, and had weapons with capabilities of dealing with big fish. I would suggest staying in a group, and moving slowly toward the boat. Don't stray far from the boat. If there are fish on board, it might not be a bad idea to throw it far from the diver. There is actually little those on board can do, except dive in the water, or shoot the sharks; revving the engines might help if it were done so as to create a series of peak sounds.

But most of all, stay out of deep water in this area. You are simply inviting a swarm of sharks otherwise, and with two or three in the water (they gather in seconds) any diver who survives may consider himself extremely lucky. With more than three, there would not, in my opinion and the opinion of the Tuna captain, be any real chance at all. Moral: don't take chances; it would be a terrible way to die, and would be totally unnecessary, since all the good fishing is in shallow water anyway.

Jordan Klein Photo. Mako Nikon 35mm, 28mm lens, f.8 at 100, Plus X.



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Responding to a request of the Department of the Army in Washington, D.C., the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation gave its permission for the Army to reproduce the County's Underwater Recreation Manual for use within the Armed Services.

Published originally by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation in 1954, the County Underwater Recreation Manual is now in its fifth non-profit edition. It has been in world-wide demand because of its explanation of the fundamentals and advanced skills of the fast growing activity of skin diving.

According to County Parks and Recreation Director N. S. Johnson, the Army originally ordered one book before deciding to expand its circulation within the Armed Services.

"Information now available," wrote T. H. Wilkenson, Army Director of Safety, "indicates that the demand for publication will be much larger than first anticipated. In order to make the manual available to all interested service groups throughout the world, it is estimated that a full printing will be required.

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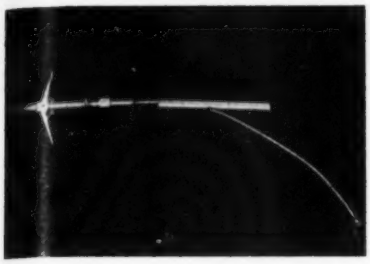

STAINLESS STEEL PULL-OUT—This head is adaptable to your existing shaft and will give you that extra weight needed for penetration and will prevent bent shafts. Fits various shaft diameters and thread sizes. Price—$5.50 PP from: Dive N' Surf, 504 No. Broadway, Redondo Beach, Calif.

THE POST POWER PAK—Now you can fly underwater with effortless ease. The 48 pound unit is attached to the base of the standard lung bottle with the flick of a convenient safety handle. The Power Pak conserves energy and reduces air consumption. Your hands are free to hold a camera, spear or underwater tools while you cruise along at 3 mph! The Power Pak, in a specially constructed aluminum case, has a 17 amp hour motor and a 12-volt non-spillage 35 amp hour airplane battery. Steering and controls are quickly mastered. Price—$189.95 from: Richards "Aqua-Lung" Center, 233 West 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y.

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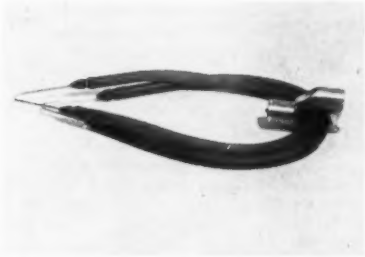
BLACK MAGIC—Returned to the market is that magical glue. For assembling or patching wet suits, can bond material together wet or dry in fifteen minutes. No cleaning necessary . . . just apply Black Magic . . . let become tacky before joining, and the two materials become as one. Price $1.00 from: Kelpsuit, 9514 E. Las Tunas Dr., Temple City, Calif.

THE NEW SKOOBA SKIN—Made of gum rubber, the suit is remarkably tough and will withstand plenty of abuse. Easy to get into this new suit has not one seam. It can be stretched up to eight times its size without damage. Shown above is the standard three piece suit consisting of a seamless hood, seamless long pants with feet and seamless long shirt. No talc is needed to assist in putting on the suit as the rubber is a smooth anti-grab type developed by Joe J. Marx of Loveland, Ohio, long-time manufacturer of a complete line of waterproof rubber footwear, waders and suits. Price of the Skooba suit—$34.95 in major diving shops throughout the country. For further information on the suit write: Mr. Joe J. Mark, So-Lo Marx Rubber Co., Loveland, Ohio.

KARPAK SLEEPER—Will pay for itself on a one week trip. Sleeps 2 adults or several children. Sets up in 60 seconds, weighs only 55 pounds. Your bed is always made . . . just hop in. Price—$96.85. Also, with the station wagon "Boot" (Price—$23.85) you literally have a home on wheels. For additional information write: Karpak Company, 1102 Roanoke Bldg., Minneapolis 2, Minn.

THOCKER SCUBA RACK—A light, tough, self adjusting, collapsible and . . . safe scuba rack for more diving pleasure. No binding crotch straps, wide webbing assures more comfort. Made of tough corrosion resistant anodized aluminum, in golden yellow for easy visibility. The rack folds for easy storage in car trunk or diving locker. Price —$19.95 P.P. Brochure on Thocker Scuba racks sent on request, dealer inquires invited. Thocker-Franks Company, 1826 Sunset Ave., Lansing, Mich.



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Superfin #100. Highest quality, designed for the advanced skin diver. Full slipper-type, with flat or offset design for speed and diving.

Mask or mask and snorkel combination available. Each equipped with wide vision, double-strength lens, safety headband and perfect seal.

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THE GENERAL TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
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BOX 951, AKRON, OHIO

Champion skin divers turn chefs for the night as the Long Beach Neptunes served abalone steaks, salad and trimmings to over 300 guests at their Annual Dinner. Photos by Joe Barnett.

L. B. NEPTUNES HOLD THIRD ANNUAL ABALONE DINNER

By Art Koehler

Abs! More Abs! was the cry heard all evening from Ron Jones, as he and forty-nine other people hurried to serve the 300 friends of the Long Beach Neptunes, who had arrived Saturday, May 17, for the annual Abalone Dinner held by the Long Beach Neptunes in Long Beach, Calif.

Words cannot adequately describe the wonderful displays of diving gear, live salt water specimens and relics from below the sea, that were assembled for this event. The stage was hung with two layers of heavy fish net, with a large shark suspended between. Dozens of brilliantly painted fish seemed to be swimming everywhere around the shark. Placed in front of this were the trophies won by the Neptunes in various diving events—Club, Interclub, Regional, National, and International—a beautiful display.

All this excitement and wonderful food was the climax of five months of planning and hard work by the whole club. Credit must of course be given to our good friend and wonderful Chef, Art Apgar, retired sea food chef, formerly of Seattle, Washington. Also to Al Hughes for handling the kitchen, preparing the food and just helping with the worrying. Dale Elser handled the ticket distribution very ably, and of course our President, Henry del' Giudice did his job wonderfully just reminding everyone to do his job, besides directing and making the decorations.

This whole event just could not be, if it weren't for the generous help of the member's wonderful wives, sweethearts and families.

Our club would like to thank all the manufacturers and diving shops for their generosity in donating door and raffle prizes.

A wonderful time was had by everyone, patrons and club members alike. So if you like to eat, win prizes and be entertained, we will see you next year.

Soundly enjoying every bit of it are Bill Hogan and his family at the Neptune Abalone Dinner. Huge marine decorations made by the club under the direction of Henry del'Giudice attired the banquet hall.

MA UC

MIDDLE ATLANTIC UNDERWATER COUNCIL

By
DON MANN
875 Taylor Drive
Folcraft, Penn.

This issue of SKIN DIVER marks the first appearance of a regular news column from the M.A.U.C., the organization of diving clubs in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The continuing success of the column will depend entirely on the wholehearted support of every member club. Please address all news and photos to Don Mann by the eighth of each month.

It seems that there are a number of clubs within the area of the M.A.U.C. who as yet are not members. The success of the Council depends on the support of every club in our area. We can best support our sport and our individual club interests by uniting our efforts and activities. All interested clubs should contact the Council Secretary, Jesse Phillips, at 20 West Tenth Street, Chester Penna.

The Philadelphia Depth Chargers, The Swarthmore Mermen, The Maryland Waterbugs, The Delaware Underwater Swim Club, The Abington Submariners, The Delco Divers, The Philadelphia Seahorses, The Underwater Explorers Club, and The Marine Exploration Society of Philadelphia were represented at the Council's April meeting. Officers were elected for the year: Don Mann, Chairman; Dave Stith, Vice Chairman; Jesse Phillips, Secretary; and Jon Marshall, Treasurer. Gordon Groves of the Maryland Waterbugs was appointed Chairman of the Southern Division (south of Pennsylvania).

The Neptune Sea-Thing draws the winner's name from the door-prize box held by Henry del'Giudice. Dr. Bob Washbon officiates at the fishy affair. Dr. N. E. Mathison Photo.

The Council laid plans to collect and circulate a Directory of Available Underwater Films and a Directory of Diving Locations and Boats for Charter. An Area promotion of the Diver Down Flag is now at the poster-printing stage.

Ed Shelmerdine of the Swarthmore Mermen is currently at work for the Council, clarifying the Pennsylvania law on fresh water spearfishing of trash fish. The law at present outlaws "giggling" but permits bow-and-arrow fishing. Pennsylvania divers would like to know exactly where the submerged diver with a speargun stands. Since the state's lakes, streams, and quarries abound with Carp, this would open up whole new vistas for the underwater sportsman, if the ruling is in our favor.

The Council would like to thank Hugh Canavan of the Philadelphia Depth Chargers for designing the emblem which appears above this column. It is now the official emblem of the M.A.U.C.

On the 4th and 5th of March in the studio of WBAL-TV Maryland Waterbug, Joe Dorsey, made an underwater endurance dive of 29 hours, 1 minute.

Joe had been in bed with the grippe only five days before he stepped into the converted oil tank which was to be his home for the next 29 hours. Although nervous, he appeared to be in high spirits through the plexiglass window cut in the side of the tank. Everything went well as the hours dragged by; Joe took liquid nourishment and communicated with his attendants with a slate and grease pencil. After nearly thirteen hours he became nauseated. For a moment it looked as if that was the end of the record, but after some encouragement through the window and a sea-sick pill the crisis passed and Joe's determination was renewed.

After twenty-nine hours and one minute he finally emerged and kissed his patient wife, Rita, who had been in constant attendance throughout the entire ordeal. His only comment on the new record was, "Boy, am I tired!"

Some new irons have been thrown onto the fire of wet vs. dry suit controversy. Members of the Maryland Waterbugs have been diving throughout this past winter with nought but wet suits of quarter inch, double surfaced foam neoprene. They claim that the suits

(*Continued on Page 25*)

for easier swimming

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You'll be amazed to see how much more fun swimming can be when you're equipped with rugged, dependable Pennsylvania swim equipment. Moderately priced and quality built, Pennsylvania is your best bet for family fun in the water this summer, and is the ideal gear for anyone just taking up skin diving.

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PENNSYLVANIA SWIM GOGGLES—Designed to fit all faces and give a wide view.

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Pennsylvania Athletic Products Division
Akron, Ohio

NEWS CURRENT

NEWS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE
COMPILED AND EDITED IN
SKIN DIVER OFFICES.

Local diving news from readers welcomed.

CAIRO, EGYPT—Frogmen have been added to **President Nasser's** military forces. **Italian** and **German** underwater experts as well as **Egyptians** already schooled by **Soviet** specialists are training divers. Frogmen are already being attached to each of nine submarines **Nasser** recently got from **Russia** according to reports.

HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA—Some of the most hazardous scenes in **"The Bridge on the River Kwai"** involving the towing of a raft full of dynamite across the rapids in a tropical river in **Ceylon,** were shot with the help of **Ceylon's** best skin divers.

TOBAGO, WEST INDIES—**Britain's Princess Margaret** dons diving gear for a look beneath the surface of the **Caribbean** in a visit in the **Indies.**

CALIFORNIA—Two **Californians, Ed Armbruster** and **Gerry Morton,** attempt cross country swim (by truck) for television program, **Truth or Consequences.** The pair, dressed in diving suits, took turns swimming in a pool that had been built on the back of the truck. Whenever the truck was moving, one of the men had to be swimming. The prize, if they make it from **California** to **New York,** is a completely equipped kitchen, a week's vacation in **Las Vegas** and $500 in cash.

FLORIDA—Newcomer to the world of recording artists, **John Gary** is a diver working on off shore exploration for an oil company when not singing.

TACOMA, WASHINGTON—Two members of the **Stadium Scubaneers, William Muse** and **Michael Lee,** recovered an outboard motor from a local lake where it was lost in about 40 feet of water.

COLUMBUS, OHIO—Five members of the **Columbus YMCA Sea-Nags Diving Club, Bob Logan, Dave Cubaro, Bob Nose, Carl Bruce** and **Bob Igel,** started diving operations in a local quarry in search of a stolen car for the **Columbus Police.** After one hour, using search patterns, the car, a 1955 **Chevy** station wagon stolen six months ago and ditched in the quarry by a friend of the owner in an attempt to fleece the insurance company out of the price of a new car, was found in thirty feet of very cold water. The divers said the car was in very bad condition and would be worthless as a salvage venture.

BRAZIL, SOUTH AMERICA—The Brazilian Skin Diver Association "ABCS" received an invitation from Portugal to participate in the Skin Diver World Championship on August 24, 1958, in Lisbon.

GERMANY—The **West German Navy** is to set up a frogman unit commanded by **Otto Kretschmer** one of **Germany's** most successful U-boat chiefs.

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA—Fishy duel ends in disgrace to anglers. Members of the **Sportsfishermen** group of the **Federated Sportsmen** accepted a challenge from the local diving club to prove they were better at angling for the denizens of the deep from on top of the water than were those who met the critters on their ground. The divers brought in 15 fish weighing 150 pounds and the anglers catch of 20 fish only weighed 35 pounds.

UTICA, MICHIGAN — During May two members of the **Utica Scuba Divers** assisted the **Macomb County Sheriff's Deputy Divers** in the search for a car and its driver that had plunged into a gravel pit. The accident happened when the car was traveling at a high rate of speed and hit the shoulder of the road and went out of control. The auto smashed through a wire fence and rolled down the embankment into the gravel pit. The divers found the car in twenty feet of water about fifty feet from the bank. They attached a hook to the bumper so the car could be towed out. The body of the driver was missing from the car. Investigation of the car showed that the windshield was broken out and the driver's door open. The body was later found some fifty feet from where the car sank. Visibility in the search was zero. Members assisting in the search were **Kenneth Sulkowski** and **Henry Curtis.**

NEW HEBRIDES—While diving at **Vanikora** in the **Santa Cruz Islands Reece Discombe** and other members of a diving party discovered the wreck of one of **"La Perouse"** ships, the **"L'Astrolabe."** The vessel was last seen by **Dumont D'Urville** in 1825 wrecked and broken up on a reef. The **"L'Astrolabe"** was wrecked in 1788. The divers discovered four anchors, iron ballast, lead blocks that were used for making cannon balls, pieces of iron, copper, wire and wood. The tip off to the location was a coil of brass wire protruding through the coral. After dynamiting the coral, it was then that all the various articles were revealed. The depth in the coral ranged between two and six feet.

DECATUR, ILLINOIS—Skin diving has been banned on **Lake Decatur.** The banning came out in a new ordinance which also states that in water skiing there must either be two persons in the towing boat or the boat must have a wide angle rear view mirror.

SAGINAW, MICHIGAN—A team of skin divers made a fish and plant survey in **Lake Linton** for the **Saginaw Field** and **Stream Club.** The club, interested in stocking the lake with game fish, first wanted to know what was down there. The divers shot underwater pictures as part of the survey.

BRAZIL—The **Brasilian Center** for **Undersea Research** has recognized the Divers Flag which will be used from now on for all diving activities. **Emerico Samassa Mayer,** president of the **Brasilian Center,** made an appeal in the largest **Brasilian** newspaper, **"O Globo"** to all skin divers in **Brasil** to recognize the Divers Flag.

WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA—**Dr. Stuart Bondurant Jr.** has helped the **Air Force** discover that a man immersed in water can withstand unusual amounts of acceleration and gravitational forces, known to airmen as G forces. A captain in the **Air Force, Dr. Bondurant** has been engaged in research in the field of human tolerance to the acceleration of space travel for the past two years at **Wright Air Development Center, Dayton, Ohio.** Using the new technique, a test was run putting volunteers in skin diving masks in a tank of water mounted on a centrifuge—a device which spins rapidly. The experiment broke the existing record for the number of G's the human body can

withstand. Submerged the volunteers were subjected to 13 G's for as long as four minutes. Previously the high of 12 gravity forces for 1¾ minutes had been considered man's endurance limit.

NEW YORK—Skin divers are being employed in a new type job—testing children's toys. A New York toy firm has taken steps to make sure its aquatic toys will stand up under the strain. The firm puts the toys through a tough pre-mauling at the hands of expert skin divers who do the testing both on and under the water.

CLARK, NEW JERSEY—The Civil Defense Disaster Control Council is seeking skin divers. During a recent meeting the Clark unit decided to round up divers to organize an underwater rescue group. The officers appropriated $750 for new equipment. Plans were made to secure a welding torch, cutting tools, crash helmets, first aid kits, an emergency generator equipped with three spotlights, a transisterized loudspeaker, geiger counter, small portable generator, two way radio and an air pack mask.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA—Professional swimmer **Johnny Weismuller** awarded **George Krasle** the trophy for **Georgia's** best competitive skin diver. **Krasle** will carry **Georgia's** colors in to National AAU competition at the **West End, Grand Bahamas,** in August.

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA—A 500-pound hunk of jade worth $10,000 was donated to the **County Museum** by a diver who found the valuable "rock" in the sea. **Al Tillman,** a **Los Angeles State College** teacher, and several other divers dragged the giant gem from a **Pacific** cove, 35 miles south of **Monterey. Dr. Thomas Clements,** curator of mineralogy at the museum said the specimen is probably the largest chunk of gem quality nephrite found along the **West Coast** and estimated its age at about 100,000,000 years. The dimensions of the gem are one yard in length, two feet wide and slightly more than a foot thick.

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND—A possible method of raising the sunken **Italian** luxury liner **Andrea Doria,** involving large air filled bags, was demonstrated for the benefit of the sunken vessel's potential salvors at a pool here. The demonstration was put on by the **Container Products Division** of the **U. S. Rubber Co.** in **Providence** for **Armando Conti,** president of the **AAA Salvage Co., Trenton, N. J.,** and **Richard Meyers,** president of the **Marque Marine Co., Wyandotte, Mich.**

MORGAN HILL, CALIFORNIA—Skin divers will be sent 120 feet down into **Anderson Reservoir** in an attempt to learn if the metal object picked up on electronic equipment is the airplane that crashed into the lake after hitting an electric power line. The plane is believed to have been piloted by **Edward E. Hoffman** who had never returned with a plane he rented a short while before the crash.

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA—**Frank Leinhaupel** landed a six foot, six inch black sea bass weighing 300-plus pounds. The bass, now on display at the **Marine Mart,** was taken in 55 feet of water off **La Jolla Cove. Leinhaupel** is a member of the **San Diego Addicts.**

MILLBURY, OHIO—A **Millbury** skin diver drowned in **Whitehouse** quarry after he became exhausted while trying to reach shore.

CAMPBELL RIVER, B.C., CANADA—**John Humphries** discovered a car while diving in the waters of **Discovery Passage** near the **Argonault Mining Company's** wharf. The car had been stolen from the parking lot of a **Courtenay Hotel.**

AUSTRALIA—While diving in the Australian championships, **Jack Evans** was towed out to sea by a shark. The shark attacked a fish on **Evans'** belt and when it wouldn't come free, grabbed a rope tied to **Evans** and dragged him out to sea. Three other competitors freed **Evans** and chased the shark away.

MIAMI, FLORIDA—**F. L. Coffman** of **West Palm Beach** has announced plans for raising a **German** submarine which he says was sunk off **Miami** during **World War II.** The hull of the submarine would be worth from $125,000 to $150,000 as scrap and if built before 1942, it might contain $1,000,000 worth of mercury (used as ballast).

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA—A **Stanford University** psychiatrist, **Dr. Roderic Gorney,** in a paper prepared for the **American Psychoanalytic Association** convention describes the sense of relaxed weightlessness in a silent world and other physiological changes induced in the diver while underwater including a sense of well being and fascination.

BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN—Two skin divers assigned to the local state police post had their first aquatic assignment in a search for a pistol in **Jackson River.** The two officers were unable to locate the gun.

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA—**Roy Randle,** a frogman, has volunteered to dive to recover the body of bulldozer driver **Kenneth Watt** from a twenty foot deep sludge pit at **Springvale.** A deep sea diver said it would be impossible for him to attempt to locate the body and bulldozer. **Randle** said he would have a 70-30 chance of surviving, but would take the risk.

PUGET SOUND—**Bob Holmes, Portland, Oregon,** landed a 56 pound octopus during the second annual **Octopus Wrestling Championships** in **Tacoma Narrows** on **Puget Sound.** His catch was the largest of some 20 octopi taken by 55 divers from **Washington, Oregon** and **British Columbia. Mrs. Merlyn L. Wilson** brought in a 28½ pound octopus. **Mrs. Wilson** is believed to be the first woman ever to compete in such an event. Most of the octopi were fitted with **U. S. Fish** and **Wildlife Service** tags and returned to the water.

SOUTH SHORE LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK—The hulk of the first steamship **Savannah** sunk 137 years ago is believed discovered. **Frank O. Braynard** said a study of twelve magnetic air detection gear contacts show the existence of six wrecks off the **South Shore Long Island** comunity. One is believed to be the **Savannah.** Divers will be used to make a more thorough search.

FRANCE—**French** divers have written a new saga of the sea by salvaging the last relics from an ancient **Greek** cargo ship that sank in 205 BC off **Grand Congloue Island** near **Marseille.** Closing of **Port Calypso** on the rocky isle signals the completion of the most extensive excavation in the history of marine archeology. The project carried out by the **National Geographic Society - Calypso Marine Archeological Expedition** under **Capt. Jacques-Yves Cousteau** took 5½ years.

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON — Members of the **Spokane Skin Divers** club have pitched in and cleaned up the resort's swimming area.

SCOTLAND—Frogmen have cleared underwater obstacles from Loch Gelly which opened afterwards for water skiing.

UNIVERSAL, PENNSYLVANIA — A determined diver, **Tommy Shelnick,** discovered the bodies of **Mr. and Mrs. George Demko** who disappeared following a **New Year's Eve** celebration. The diver who had searched **Hangman's Hollow** pond earlier returned for a more thorough search as the water earlier had been murky, and discovered the car with the bodies inside.

CARMEL, NEW YORK—Some 16 members of area police and fire departments have signed up for a seven week skin diving course initiated by **Carmel** police chief.

SCOTLAND—Frogmen with an underwater television camera took viewers beneath the surface of **Loch Ness.** The object of the filming was not to hunt the **Loch Ness Monster,** but to show whether underwater television and echo sounders may be the means by which this mystery can be solved.

SALEM, OREGON—**University of Oregon's** athletic chieftain, **Leo Harris** recently passed an exam to qualify as a skin diving instructor.

ST. JOSEPH, MICHIGAN — Skin divers **David Lewis** and **Gregory Wise** recovered a stolen coin box from the **Paw Paw River.**

DAVENPORT, IOWA—A skin diver recovered an outboard boat engine from the **Mississippi River** after **East Moline** police had dragged the river unsuccessfully for several hours. **Norman Crews** found the engine in 12 feet of water after a 20 minute search.

EAST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT—Skin divers find no bodies in industrialist's plane after it crashed into **Long Island** sound with its engine wide open. The plane may have carried its owner, **Edward J. Carney,** to his death. Members of his family said **Carney** had been out of the hospital only a few days and had planned no plane trip.

NEW JERSEY—The **New Jersey State Police Underwater Recovery Unit,** composed of 40 troopers, started its annual training session. The training will be centered in the area of the sunken **British** merchant vessel, 500 feet off **Manasquan Beach,** discovered by divers in 1956.

SCOTLAND—Among university expeditions supported by the **Royal Geographical Society** is the **Cambridge** underwater expedition to survey the ruins of the ancient submerged city of **Appollonia,** off the coast of **Libya.** Seven expert underwater swimmers are included in the staff.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA—Ten divers of the **Underwater Explorers Club** of **Western Australia** made what they contend is the longest underwater run on a manta board ever attempted in the world. The 12 mile trip from **Rottnest Island** to **Fremantle** harbor took 4 hours, 15 minutes. Divers were changed every 15 minutes. The **UEC** has made two such boards for searching the ocean beds for ancient wrecks.

QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA—Four **Cairns** skin divers using hooka units spent more than three hours examining the wartime wreckage of a **Mitchell** bomber which crashed off **Dayman Point.** During the inspection a seven foot leopard shark lay near the bomber's wing. The harmless shark refused to move.

Fred Berge, on a scouting trip for the Official National Skin Diver Tour, steps off the Hawaiian Airlines 52 passenger Convair 340 at the Kona Airport to the warm Island welcome of Miss Hawaii. Hawaiian Airlines serves the entire island group with fast, effcient service in their pressurized Convair 340s. The company has operated in the Territory of Hawaii for 29 years without a passenger fatality. The trip from Honolulu, Oahu, via Hawaiian Airlines, to Kona on the Island of Hawaii takes 50 minutes.

Fred inspects one of the many excellent Kona skin diving spots as Miss Hawaii describes the many varieties of fish, shells and other marine life that can be observed in the region. Miss Hawaii is the multitalented Dell-Fin Poaha (means Thursday).

The Hotel Kona Hukilau is to be headquarters for the Skin Diver Tour. This lush, new hotel faces the water with diving areas right in front and on both sides. Above Dell-Fin and Fred take in the view from the sun-deck over the entrance to the Hotel Kona Hukilau. Diving and fishing boats are tied up on the beach, just out of camera view.

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR HAWAIIAN SKIN DIVER TOUR

Transocean Air Lines representative Fred Berge has just completed an inspection of the facilities in Kona, Hawaii, and Honolulu, Oahu that members of the Official National Skin Diver Tour will visit during their eight days of skin diving and spearfishing in the islands. Only very minor changes have been made, the most important being that the Honolulu hotel accommodations have been moved to the Waikiki Biltmore Hotel at Waikiki Beach. This hotel, with all of the Hawaiian atmosphere, is much closer to the beach. The Waikiki Biltmore will welcome the diving group for their two night visit and sightseeing session in the fabulous city of Honolulu. All of the tours will begin at the Waikiki Biltmore.

The Official National Skin Diver Tour continued to stir up much interest and inquiries regarding the trip are increasing daily by personal call, telephone and letter. Reservations are being made by many expectant vacationists for this wonderful low-cost eight-day package tour which leaves for Hawaii from Lockheed Air Terminal in Los Angeles via Transocean Airlines' new, pressurized Super H Constellation on September 5.

Tookie Evans, famous Hawaiian skin diver who will conduct the tour and all underwater activities, will whisk the guests to the Hotel Kona Hukilau where they will prepare for eight glorious, carefree days of skin diving, fun and relaxation in the land of sunshine.

The Kona Coast on the Big Island is truly the diver's promised land. Mile after mile of calm, clear water where the diver may chose his own working area and depth. The taking of game fish is almost a certainty—the clarity and calmness of the water is constant. The Hotel Kona Hukilau is situated right on the bay at Kona, recreational facilities are plentiful and Hawaiian entertainment in the evenings all blend to make this the greatest vacation ever.

Transportation between the islands will be furnished by Hawaiian Airlines in their fast, modern Convair 340s. The scenic 170 mile air route between Honolulu and Kona allows tour members to view the west coasts of Oahu, Hawaii, Lanai and Kahoolawe islands in all of their extravagant tropical beauty.

The package cost for the entire tour is only $328.22. Transocean Air Lines has arranged eight glorious days for the skin diving vacationist that all adds up to the maximum in all directions, spearfishing, photography, shell collecting, just plain rest, skin diving, fun and frolic.

Hawaiian Visitors Bureau Photo

POLISH FINS

By Aleksander Szlagowski

The first news about the world of free diving for Polish enthusiasts appeared in 1950 when Engineer Z. Dobrowolski authored an article on skin and scuba diving. He described the many excellent experiences of frogmen in an article entitled, "The Kingdom of Neptune". Polish underwater swimming amateurs were delighted. They saw many new horizons. Dobrowolski described the construction of the underwater diving apparatus, Cousteau-Gagnan, and many other "Aqua-Lung" auxiliary accessories in his article. There were also several photographs copied from the famous French magazine of the Club Alpin Sous Marins.

About the same time Capt. W. Zubrzycki made his first experiments in free diving. In his book, printed in 1956 and entitled, "Three Months Underwater", he described his various adventures underwater and gave enlightening reports, remembrances and short stories of his first underwater experiments. The introduction of this fascinating sport in Poland was very modest, it was in 1951 that Zubrzycki imported the first fins and masks and later in 1953 he built the first case for a camera destined for underwater photography. Gas masks were used in the first diving experience. These were joined to the surface by hoses and later they were replaced by helmets.

An open circuit single stage regulator system is now being produced in Poland. This regulator is called Neptune and was developed by engineers J. Hiszpanski and M. Grimm. This apparatus enables us to dive to a depth of approximately 40 meters.

Two Polish manufacturers, pioneers in free swimming equipment, now produce fins, masks and snorkels. All amateur divers have many difficulties to overcome in preparing their full diving equipment. We are obliged to construct our underwater suits with our own hands and these suits are absolutely necessary, as we must take into consideration our cold waters.

Harpoon guns and hand spears are also hand made. Most of them are constructed after studying the models described in foreign magazines. Unfortunately, underwater camera housings are very rare in our country. Nevertheless the interest in underwater photography and spearfishing is enormous.

The sandy and partly rocky bottom of our Baltic Sea, covered with foaming waves and with limited visibility, is not too attractive for amateur divers, but we do find our Polish lakes very beautiful and interesting. A part of Poland is called "the land of a thousand lakes and rivers". This area is mostly surrounded by great wild forests and is very charming and attractive. Our summer season which allows us free diving is rather short and we are forced to have our regular training in covered pools especially in the winter season.

The greatest advancement for the progress of the diving sport in Poland began with the first course for instructors of free diving organized by the committee of the Underwater Swimming P.T.T.K. in 1956. All of the clubs have members that have attended this course for free diving.

I am sending this short and informative report about the introduction and development of the diving sport in Poland for the readers of SKIN DIVER magazine. More detailed information and photographs of our activities will follow in a later report.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC COUNCIL

(Continued from Page 21)

are even comfortable for ice diving. Harry Sefton, the club's secretary, hastened to add that the suit must fit snugly and must be made sans zippers to assure warmth. However, I'm afraid that your "chairman" will stick to a dry suit for ice diving. Any comments?

On Sunday, April 20th, eight divers and two tenders from the Philadelphia Depth Chargers and the Delco Divers embarked for a third try at the "Debbie Sue," the clam boat that sank last November eighteen miles out of Cape May, New Jersey. The Captain and two crew members are believed aboard the vessel in some eighty feet of water, and the widows are in a grievous predicament. Since there are no bodies as yet, the insurance cannot be paid for seven years on the "missing" men. The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin has agreed to finance the diving venture, but every Saturday since the beginning of the year has been too windy for diving operations. The 20th dawned clear and calm, but attempts to locate the wreck with the aid of Loran and a Fathometer failed. The marker that had earlier been floated over the location had since blown away, so the suited divers unsuited and made their disappointed way home. Further attempts will be made this summer.

Again, we want to request that all clubs in the Middle Atlantic area contact the Council as soon as possible. Our organization depends upon the support of every member club.

INSTRUCTIONS TO AAU COMPETITORS

By Eugene D. Vezzani

The National A. A. U. Competitive Skin Diving Committee has received countless letters of inquiry from various clubs in various states wishing to participate in the regional championships with the hope of representing their regions at the National A. A. U. championships on August 17, 1958, at Grand Bahama Island. We have answered these letters as quickly as they have been received.

We ask that the clubs, their councils and associations in order to have an equal and fair representation at the Regional Championships contact their regional chairmen or regional representatives who will give them the dates, locations and entry forms necessary. Should these interested clubs, councils or associations for any reason whatsoever not receive immediate action on any valid request, inquiry, et cetera, then contact immediately Eugene D. Vezzani, A. A. U. Championship Chairman, 66 Pryor Street, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia.

It must be understood that an individual in order to enter the National Championships must (1) Be a member of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) (2) Be a member of a Club, of which said Club must be also a member and registered with the A. A. U. (3) the rule that a Club to enter a team in the National Championships must have been in existance at least three months prior to date of competition has been erroneously interpreted by many individuals to mean that "said club must have been or must be a member of the A. A. U. at least three months prior to date of competition". This last interpretation is erroneous. As long as that club (as concerning the National Championship on August 17, 1958) has its entry form (application) filled out to the letter and in the hands of the National A. A. U. Championship Chairman, E. D. Vezzani, by August 2, 1958, which is fifteen (15) days prior to the national meet, then that club may enter said championship. (4) Each club qualifying for the nationals must enter a three-man team and, if desired, one alternate member. This alternate may be entered to replace a regular team member in the event of illness, et cetera, of that regular team member but no alternate will be allowed to replace a regular member for any reason whatsoever after the start of the competition on any one day. (5) That the individuals of the winning championship regional team and the club which they represent must first obtain a travel permit to compete on Foreign Territory (Grand Bahama is British) from the Foreign Relations Committee of the A. A. U., c/o Mr. J. F. Simms, Sec.-Tres., National A.A.U., 233 Broadway, New York 7, New York., prior to entering the U. S. Nationals. The Local A. A. U. Association cannot grant this authority.

It should be remembered that all Regional Championship teams entering the National Championships must obtain a travel permit from A. A. U. to enter the British Island.

The following are the seven (7) regions, the states within each and the chairmen responsible for selecting a (one) regional championship team.

1). *West Coast Region:* California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico—Contact Dave M. Bottles, 20 Sixty-Fourth Place, Long Beach, California.

2). *Southeastern Region:* Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina—Contact Dr. Jack C. Wickham, 2054 N. Decatur Road, Decatur, Georgia.

3). *East Coast Region:* Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia—Contact Paul Kenneally, 24 Arcadia Park, Dorchester, Massachusetts.

4). *Great Lakes Region:* Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa; and that part of Missouri East of Jefferson City including Kirksville, Macon, Mexico, Eldon, Lebanon, Willow Springs—Contact G. H. White, 323 E. Hoover Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

5). *Gulf Coast Region:* Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and the entire state of Texas—Contact Richard O. Alba, 2214 Robert Street, New Orleans 15, Louisiana.

6). *Mid Western:* North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming, Oklahoma, and that part of Missouri West of and including Jefferson City and the following: Maherly, Columbia, Princeton, Trenton, Chillicothe, Carrolton — Contact Kenneth Fick, 7660 Raleigh Street, West Minister, Colorado.

7). *North Pacific Region:* Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana—Contact Betty J. Blanchard, Route 5, Box 847-A, Everett, Washington.

The awards for the National A. A. U. mens championships, the womens event and the International Grand Bahama Invitational Event will consist of approximately eighty-eight (88) trophies, plaques and cups, nine (9) medals and eighty-two (82) ribbons. These events will be covered by the United Press, Associated Press, various newspapers and magazines. The progress of the competing teams will in all probability be reported upon by an underwater communications system. Over five hundred (500) spectators are expected to attend. Accommodations are excellent.

This year's National Championships are expected to be the most successful in competitive history and as competitive skin diving will most likely be on the Olympic Schedule we of the U.S.A. can do our part in supporting our state and regional team.

For any further information contact E. D. Vezzani, 66 Pryor Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. Telephone numbers JAckson 38211 and CEdar 77632.

"What kept you?"

Dan Murphy, Bob Mitchell and Mahlon Weir pose with their Florida catch and charter boat captain Art White.

WE TANGLED WITH A BIG ONE

By DAN MURPHY

I am a professional skin diving instructor with winter headquarters at the fabulous Boca Raton Hotel & Club, Boca Raton, Florida. My skin diving school features daily trips to nearby reefs, flying spearfishing safaris (via a twin Beechcraft) to the Bahamas and complete scuba courses. Naturally I have accumulated a variety of experiences but one that happened to me just a short time ago sticks out vividly in my mind.

The day was April 19 and the school was closed. Along with my two assistants, Bob Mitchell and Mahlon Weir, Mahlon's wife Joan, my wife Chris and Patricia Moss, the hotel photographer, I was on my way for a day of skin diving. Not unlike the proverbial bus driver we were doing what we do every day. Our vessel was the 45 foot sportsfisherman, the Angler, captained by Art White, whose business is primarily sports fishing although I often engage him to take some of my large parties out. Art is an enthusiastic skin diver and has a fathometer on board which facilitates the finding of off-shore reefs.

About two miles off shore we dropped anchor on one of our favorite reefs. Conditions were ideal, bright sun, calm ocean and clear water. The reef is about 85 feet deep and we have to use our scuba units to get down. Earlier in the season we had taken two huge jewfish (252 lbs. and 281 lbs.) on this reef and were hoping to turn the trick again. "Gearing up" quickly we dropped into the blue water in quest of big game. We swam down as quickly as possible and immediately started cruising the reef. This reef has an inside ledge with about a twenty foot drop-off and experience has proven it the best hunting ground.

With our regulators feeding air effortlessly we were completely at home in the "silent world" and almost immediately sighted a large jewfish. Stalking him proved fruitless as he seemed cognizant of our goal and stayed out of range and finally disappeared. We then bagged a 40 lb. grouper, a 12 lb. grouper, an 8 lb. chub, and running short of air, surfaced.

The girls, egged on by my wife (also my business partner), kidded us because we had failed to bring back a denizen of the deep.

Quickly switching our Pro regulators to fresh tanks we returned to the bottom. About ten minutes of cruising brought another giant jewfish into sight and this time into range. Bob's CO2 gun popped, the shaft hit home and Mr. Jewfish took off like he was late for dinner and headed for a cave. Mahlon reached his homemade, rubber powered, gun into the hole and tried for a head shot which must have glanced off the fish's head.

Enraged (or scared) he came barrelling out of the cave, knocked me down, and pulled the gun out of Bob's hand. The line (between the gun and the spear) snapped when it snarled on the coral as he thrashed about. He then charged us like a maddened bull narrowly missing me again and grazing Mahlon.

I for one had never seen a jewfish behave this way and was a little upset to say the least. Bob and Mahlon seemed to feel the same way and I think we were all relieved to see him disappear into the gloom. Retrieving the gun, we made our way to the surface and relaxed with a cold beer. Not having any more air, we headed back for the club, vowing to come back again to see if we could make a comeback with that fish that weighed at least 500 lbs.

SALVAGE DIVING 1832 STYLE

By WALTER C. DEAS

Diving with a type of breathing apparatus in Scotland dates back to at least 1832. An article from the Thursday, August 2, 1832, edition of the Dundee, Perth and Cupar Advertiser relates an account of a diver exploring the wreck of a ship which sank in 1795.

The old newspaper clipping was discovered by T. D. Bruce, father of Roger Bruce who is a member of the Dundee Sub-Aqua Club.

The article from the paper, over a century old, reads:

"A person has obtained the sanction of the Admiralty to descend, by means of air pipes, to the wreck of the Boyne of ninety eight guns which caught fire at Spithead on the 1st of May 1795, drifted from her moorings, and finally blew up opposite Southsea Castle. At low water the wreck is approached to about two or three fathoms. A ladder of sufficient length reaches the wreck from a vessel moored over. The person descends, his head enveloped in a large leaden mask, with glass eyelets, protected by small brass bars, his body covered with an Indian-rubber dress, leaving hands perfectly free, as also his legs and feet. By this means, he traverses the wreck, and has been enabled to suspend a few twenty-four pounders, which were hoisted into the vessel above. He has discovered what it is supposed was the wine-store of the captain, the late Sir George Grey, Baronet. He first brought up one bottle, then two; he then took down a basket, which he filled, and finally brought up twenty-one bottles—claret and port—which of course have been immersed in salt water for the last thirty years. He refused, on the deck of the vessel 20s a bottle for it, but handsomely tapped one by way of taster for the bystanders. His agreement with Government is to have all he causes to be brought up, except the copper, which is to be deposited in the dock yard, for which he will be allowed the usual salvage. The bottles are covered with immence barnacles."

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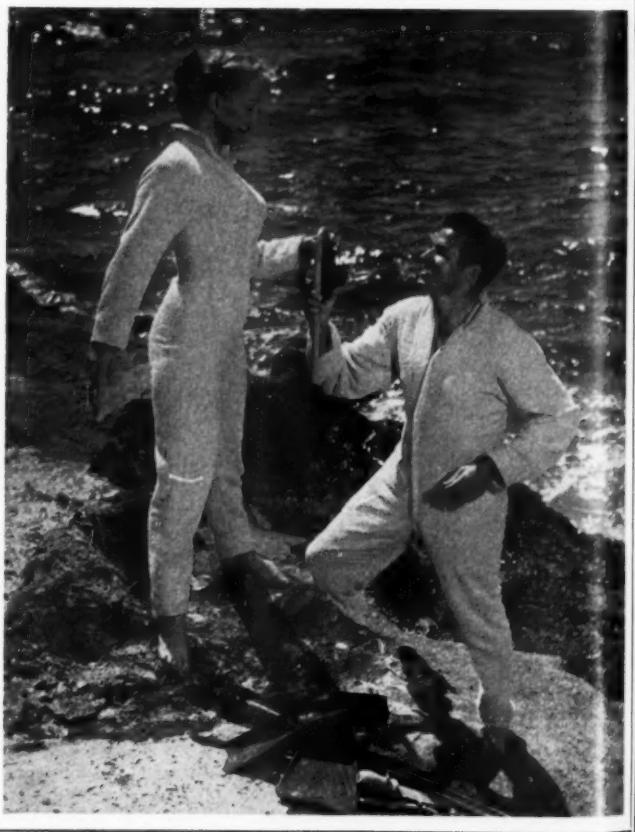

Southern California . . .

DIVE SHOP CHATTER

By Chuck Fremdling

Don and George Brauer, co-owners of Ski N' Dive, located at 17043 Lakewood Blvd., Bellflower, Calif., have hit on a brilliant idea in their temporary shop. It amazes me how they can stock all of this merchandise in such a small area. But they have it if you want it. The idea they hit on is a rental library for the diver. I believe this is a terrific idea, since so many books on skin diving are priced too high for the average beginner. So you beginners dash over and get acquainted with some of the good reading offered you at very low cost. While there ask about their wonderful and very reasonably priced scuba classes offered to advance you in your diving.

Chuck Fremdling

Sunland Sports Lodge, 332 N. Canon Dr., Beverly Hills, Calif., is not a new store, but one of the finest equipped skin diving stores in the heart of any city. In the heart of Beverly Hills they offer plenty of parking while stopping for air. Skin and scuba diving classes are a continuous part of their program. Manager Bill Wright would be happy to meet you personally and go over any problems that you might have. His store is complete in sporting goods, especially in the scuba department. Bill and staff are very competent and capable to teach you the art of snow skiing, water skiing, tennis and, of course, skin and scuba diving.

Al's Sporting Goods, P. O. Box 428 (Hwy. One at Pier), Cayucos, Calif., is another of the completely equipped skin and scuba dive shops in California. Al Bettencourt, who was one of my first dealer salesmen I taught to dive several years back, is the owner in conjunction with his restaurant.

Art and Rene Swim School, 10305 S. Normandy Ave., Los Angeles, Calif., is one of the finest swim schools in the country. Remember, to be a good diver, you must be a good swimmer. All of you youngsters are eventually going to get into this fabulous sport of skin diving, so here is a chance to learn to swim from a swim school with very high credentials. Give them a call.

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It's true. This remarkable reduction applies on both standard and reserve valve lungs. The lowest prices ever offered on a NAVY APPROVED LUNG.

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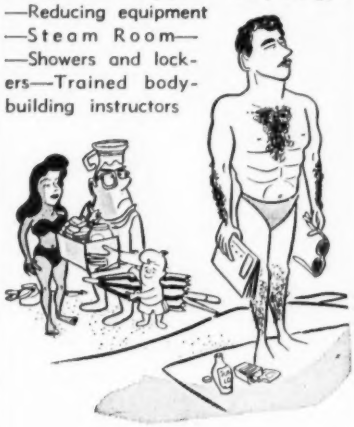

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South Gate California

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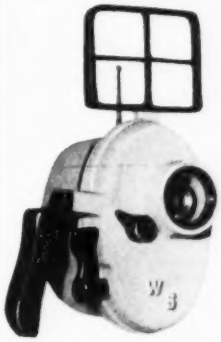

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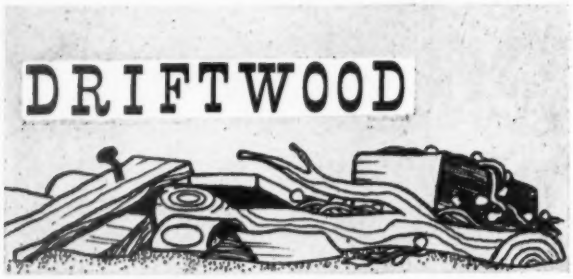


. . . The mail, this month, seems to have consisted of letters which easily fall into three catagories: (1) Letters from exceptionally juvenile-minded teenagers, (2) letters from people blasting me for, frequently, suggesting that they make this page a many-splendored thing by writing in and (3) the letters which you see on this month's page which are there simply because they seemed like fine examples of what Driftwood *needs if it is to exist. There are few pictures only because the mail did not bring really interesting photos and because the plethora of snapshots (most of them showing pugnacious 14-year-olds, flexing their muscles at the camera) went into the wastebasket with a speed that might appall anyone 14-years-old with a passion for flexing their muscles at cameras. Admittedly, it's a harsh fact that only one man chooses what is to comprise this page. However, he tries to pick* those *letters and photos which he hopes will prove most interesting to the majority of onlookers. If he fails to accomplish this fine, noble purpose—you have his express permission to smile snidely and feel totally superior: After all, that's just another reason for Driftwood—to allow you the golden opportunity to indulge in superiority. I say that's precisely what the World needs: More superiority for Everybody. And, now, if you will have the kindness to help an aging, jolly pseudo-philosopher down off this soapbox, I shall consider it my pleasure to lead the horde into this month's invigorating verbal-surf at a spirited limp . . .*

I am a beginner at skin diving, and I should like to contact skin divers around Possum Kingdom, in the northern part of Texas. I am planning to go there this summer.

LAWRENCE SHELTON
613 Morrell Strett
Baytown, Texas

You learn something everyday: I always thought Texas was All South. *Didn't realize it admitted having a northern part.*

Just a wifely last word. What took my husband a whole article to say (SPUTNIKS vs. AQUATICS, May Issue), I could have said in one sentence: All us luna(r)tics should go jump into the ocean instead of taking a flying leap at the moon. Thank you.

BEVERLEY J. BURNS
12122 Aero Drive
Garden Grove, Calif.

Robert, do you *have a woodshed?*

I've just started reading *Driftwood* recently. Believe me when I say I could hardly accept the fact that people would risk the almost-certain punishment from your sarcastic tongue by deliberately sending in sincere letters. I have been told, by my friends who have read your page since it started, that you wage constant war against dignity, sincerity and kindness. I'll risk it and ask why you do this?

MARSHA ELLEN UHL
San Francisco, Calif.

I'm neurotic, honey.

Your preamble to the May *Driftwood* concludes: "We only speak non-conformity around here, and the louder, the better . . . " So try this on for non-conformity (or, perhaps, it's the ultimate in conformity?). Have you ever tried skin diving with just mask and fins—and nothing else but lots of skin? No? Well, you just haven't lived then! My wife and I do, every chance we get—although mostly in inland lakes and streams. Ocean's too cold around here. The fish we meet don't know what to make of it, nor do the occasional string-fishermen who have, once or twice, surprised us. Thought your readers might like to know that this "purist" method of skin diving provides a certain zest to an otherwise dull sport.

MR. & MRS. FRAN BARNES
1134 Lexington Drive
Sunnyvale, California

Ain't that *the naked truth though. Yeh, compared to your basic approach, conventional diving would, indeed, seem pretty damn dull.*

Much to some people's surprise, they are showing their stupidity by knocking your page. If they don't like humorous writing—just because they are narrow-minded and have no humor at all—why do they read your page?

DICK GLASGOW AG-3
OA Division
U.S.S. Yorktown, CVS-10
c/o FPO San Francisco, Calif.

Ever heard of Masochists, Dick?

I'm getting off a fast, pretty furious letter to you because I just now read your awfully "smart" answer to my letter which was printed in the June *Driftwood*. Yes, my boyfriend *is* darn jealous, but that isn't any sign that I'm married to him yet—or that I cannot do or say what I please! I was going to send you my photo (and I'm a doll, compared to some of those fat slobs whose pictures you've printed), but I won't now, after reading your so-called humorous reply. In fact, I only thought I was doing you a favor when I wrote the first letter. Apparently, favors don't mean anything to you.

CATHERINE GRIMES
San Diego, California

Jeezley, you're gorgeous when you're mad. How come you still aren't signing your full address? Honey, nobody is doing ME a favor if they write to Driftwood. Putting this outrage together is merely interesting work. Reading *it is where the joy, flags and bells come in.*

SPECIAL RELHOKNOTE TO L. FLISTEREAN STURDLEY: *If that is your* real *name, then I must apologize for not having used your superb offering. Some really clever nonsense there. However, if that name is only a nom de plume (and my neurotic suspicions insist that it is), it's my painful duty to inform you that phoney names are jammed into the same classification with stuffedshirt philosophies, alleged dignity and outraged maidenhood around this rugged stretch of limbo. We can stand almost any jolt as long as we can see it coming at us, with the pilot plainly in view; but we take a dim regard at throwing rocks when we can't see who we are stoning. Try us again.*

I protest Herr Kohler's page of Driftwood. It just don't belong. Put it in some teenage magazine.

W. A. ROHNER
Stockton, California

It don't, eh?

Dear "Creature From The Gloom Lagoon." Enclosed are a couple of pictures of Miss Carrie McCormick. Story is, her family—her father is the Naval Attache in Rome— were down here, in Athens, on a visit to the Naval Attache, here; and she mentioned she would like to learn to skin dive in the blue, crystal waters of Greece. Anyway, I was "picked" to teach her the use of the Lung. This was her first experience with a Lung, and she came through with flying colors.

SGT. KENNETH STANLEY USMC
American Embassy
APO 223,
New York City, N. Y.

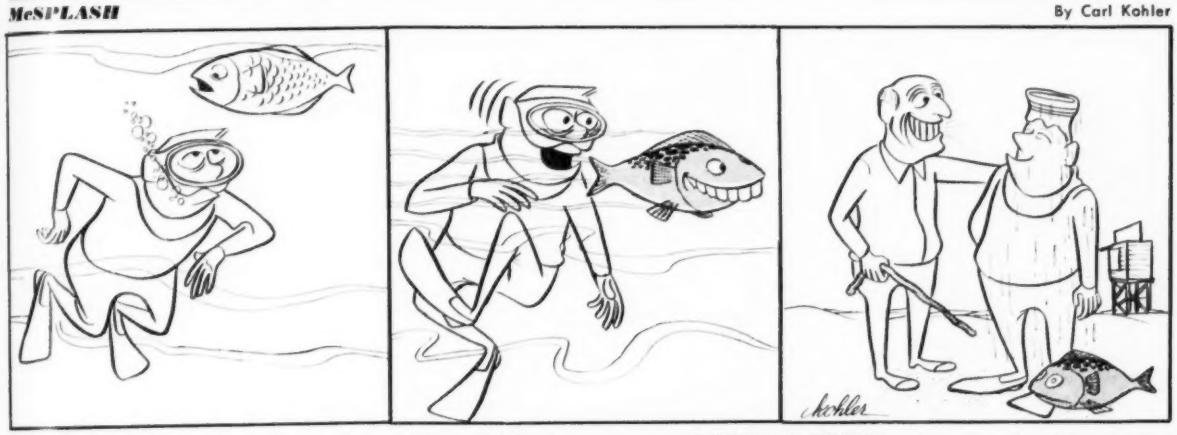
Leave it to the Gyreens to be lolling around when the plush duty is slathered out. Carrie is a beautiful little doll, and you are to be congratulated, Stanley, for keeping your mind on teaching her to safely, sanely use a Lung. Everybody on their feet — and a regulation growl for Stanley.

I've just finished reading the June *Driftwood* and would like to comment upon this so-called teenager, Dave Schwartz of Temple City. He's either a mama's boy or he's too scared, himself, and by writing to you—probably expects sympathy. I'm 15-years-old and have helped organize a skin diving club (just for such boys), and I wouldn't mind hearing from other teenagers who may have the same kind of troubles as Dave Schwartz.

JERRY HILL
Apartment "F"
623 West Stocker
Glendale 2, Calif.

Aren't you rather calling the shots prematurely, Jerry? I got the impression, from Dave's letter, he was a guy who only needed aid in convincing his mother that he had no desire to be a "mama's boy."

McSPLASH By Carl Kohler



I think skin diving stinks. I also am of the opinion only chronic deadheads would participate in this sort of Look-I'm-A-Wet-Tarzan nonsense. If anybody, out there, has enough intelligence to discuss *Zen Buddhism* . . .

CHARLIE DENNIS
Box 816
Walnut Creek, California

Well, that let's me *out.*

Kohler, around our house *Driftwood* is highly regarded as one of the best magazine items to arrive every month. We are a family of eight—hard working Poppa, hard working Mama (me) and six, lively younguns ranging from age 3 to 14, all of them gorgeous little dolls! One of our brightest dreams is to someday move to fabulous California, and, just maybe, coax you and Sylvia over for a chinfest and coffee! There's something I wish you would clear up, once and for all: Exactly *where* do you stand on this business of whether or not wives should accompany their husbands on diving trips?

LEONNA ANDERSEN
Brownsville, Texas

I subscribe to the sensible old Teutonic School of Thought which firmly insists most women stay in the kitchen—where, barefooted and pregnant, they can be protected from the more complicated things in life, like skin diving. However, if a wife must *accompany the old man, I think the very least she can do is have the coffee kept hot and swoon with feminine admiration each time the old man staggers valiantly ashore, whether he brings home a 600-pound sea bass or a 1-ounce starfish. These somewhat radical viewpoints are the dire result of having been taught, since I was old enough to tell the boys from the girls, that this is a man's world—no matter what kind of nonsense appears in ladies magazines.*

I love *Driftwood*—especially when some narrow-minded Fuddy-Duddy writes in, trying to tell you off! Then, in a couple of lines of your quiptical remarks, you show them up for what they really are—narrowed-minded Fuddy-Duddies! Keep on—we non-Fuddy Duddies dig you the most.

DAVID THOMAS
118 West 16th Street
Ada, Oklahoma

Man, I hear you clear-like all the way out here in Crazyville. But, tell me, what's a one-eyed, one-horned, people-shoving Quiptical? *It swims yet?*

At present, I'm doing my time in the Royal Airforce, over here in England, and have not dived for almost two years. No kidding, I'm so frustrated that, every now and then, I sneak up to the attic to try-on my rubber suit, just to see how it feels. As I sat (sniffling in my snorkle) the other day, I came across this snap: It represents my last day of diving at Palos Verdes, August 1956. I'll be back again, in October of this year, so it will soon be worth living again. Seems to me, most of the guys who write in to Driftwood also want to hear from girls. Me, *too!*

DAVE TANSLEY
22 Russell Square
London, W.C.1
England

Let's have plenty of Instant Mail heading Dave's way, reassuring him that Palos Verdes waters, Gorgeous American Dolls and The Right To Sleep Late In The Morning still exist in these United States. Not to mention Hot Coffee, Cold Beer and Hamburgers.

. . . and as we come tumbling ashore again, I should like to point out that while your letters and photos are always eagerly anticipated, it makes me no never mind if you prefer not to thrash out here to this gaudy buoy. Go ahead. Sit back and say, "Ahhhh, he'll get plenty of mail from all the others." *If enough of you take this attitude, it won't be very long before this irritating sandbar in the channel of human relations will be replaced by two-page features like a COMPENDIUM OF MARINE FLORA AND FAUNA or I TESTED COFFEE-POTS FOR THE HARTFORD GILLMEN. Well, I suppose worse things could happen Anyway, diehard that I am, I'll be peering up and down the beach—looking JUST for YOU—next month. Meanwhile, Good Diving.*

uncle relhok and his portable sample-case of Raptures

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA COUNCIL OF SKIN DIVING CLUBS

P. O. Box 42543
Miami, Florida

By Bud Cox

Winners of the Southeast Florida Council of Skin Diving Clubs' Miami Open Tournament. The jacks that Reef Divers Frank Shulski and Pinky Heimer are holding helped win the third place trophy Don Wadam is holding. In the center Walt Dineen displays the perpetual and first place trophies won by the Sea Devils. On the right are the second place Miami Makos, Bill Von Seggern, Herby Ruiz and Harry McCabe. Photo by Bud Cox.

The University of Miami Sea Devils won the Miami Open Spearfishing Tournament at Whistling buoy May 25 with a total of 33 points. The Miami Makos took second honors with 18 points and the Reef Divers came in third with 13½ points. This contest was conducted after two postponements the previous weeks due to heavy seas and high winds.

The boats for this contest (mostly 16-18 foot runabouts) put in at Homestead Bay Front park between 6:30 and 7:00 a.m. and ran the 19 miles to the buoy in time for the 9:00 a.m. starting gun. The contestants were free to choose their fishing grounds and participating boats ranged from Pacific Light to Carysfort Light. The Sea Devils started their fishing at the Whistling buoy and during the first half hour Phillip Bissell Shaver II shot barracudas weighing 12, 18 and 25 pounds. This accounted for all of the cudas shot in the contest with the exception of one 14 pounder shot during this same time at the same location by Herby Ruiz of the Makos.

After the first half hour the Sea Devils moved south searching for a better reef, but only found grass and eventually circled north. Shaver contends the Sea Devils spent 40% of their time looking for reefs, but their total of 33 points indicate they did some excellent fishing during the remaining 60% of the contest.

In the individual scoring Shaver was high man with 17 points, followed by 1956 Cuban champion Herby Ruiz with 15 points. The show position was taken by Meyer of the Sea Devils with 9 points. The point system that is utilized in all Southeast Council meets allows five points for the heaviest fish in each class and is graduated down to one point for the fifth heaviest fish in each class.

The heaviest fish of the tournament was Ruiz' 31 pound grouper, followed by Reef Diver Frank Shulski's 30½ pound jack and Pinky Heimer of the same club took third with his 26 pound jack. The Miami Morays' Barbara Atkinson was the only girl in this contest and her teammates were AAU swimming medalist Smoke Ellis and Joe Rotramel. The Moray team compiled 8½ points.

All fish taken during this tournament were donated to Mercy Hospital. The next spearfishing event of this area will be the Florida AAU championships to be conducted by the Southeast Florida Council of Skin Diving Clubs at Popeye's fishing camp on Conch key, June 22.

The Miami Makos are coming on like the indestructible gangbusters with two victories in as many starts. The first tournament of the year, the Miami Open, saw the Makos take second place on the strong showing of ex-Cuban champion Herby Ruiz who was the only man in the contest to score in every class. Ruiz scored 15 of the 18 points collected by the Makos and the other points came from Bill Von Seggern's 14 pound grouper.

Harry McCabe went scoreless in the Miami Open, but the next week he took top honors in the Grand Bahama Open with his 28 pound eight ounce grouper and Von Seggern placed second in the individual aggregate weight class. The Mako team in this contest consisted of McCabe, Von Seggern and Bennett Winston and it came in first in a field of five full teams, one two-man team and one one-man team.

The Makos team, and manager Bud Cox, spent two days scouting the reefs on the west end of Grand Bahama and the biggest fish taken were with Cox's Argus C-3. This team scouted waters up to 60 feet deep, spotted 150 pound tarpon, mackerel, 10 foot manta rays, brushed over belly-deep beds of fire coral, tramped over several miles of the roughest coral in existence and after two days they were well versed in Grand Bahama, West End.

The day before the tournament the U of M Sea Devils shot 128 pounds of fish (gutted) during a couple hours of practice, but during the tourney they only scored with 25 pounds and eight ounces. The other SEC entry was the two-man team of the Glug Glugs that came in fourth with 29 pounds of fish.

The SEC educational committee announced that the Sam Snorkel posters are appearing regularly in numerous sports stores, yachting clubs, schools and it is also distributing these posters to all known councils throughout the U.S. Sam Snorkel is an animated character who teaches skin diving ethics and promotes good will with line fishermen. Each month the committee distributes a new Sam Snorkel poster. This same committee has distributed several thousand cards reading "You have been patronized by a spearfisherman" and the name and address of the council. These cards are being left at gas stations, restaurants and other business establishments in the banned area of the Florida Keys by skin divers passing through on the way to the lower keys.

Several clubs are recruiting girl teams from among their members for the nationals, but most of the girls are fish watchers.

NEW YORK NEWS

By GENE PARKER

Johnson Road, RD #4, Scotia, New York

This month we welcome a new club to the Empire State Underwater Council. The Trigger Fish (clever name) of Rockaway.

Another new club, the Staten Island Skin Divers have been winter diving in Shark River. These boys really know some good spearfishing spots out at sea. These fellows and others have asked for information on the Empire State Council. So here is a breakdown of the how, and how much, of Council membership. (The why and what does it do for me?, will be in a later issue.)

EMPIRE STATE
UNDERWATER COUNCIL INC.
Post Office Box 165
Flushing, New York

MEMBERSHIP—In the Council is open to skin diving clubs in New York State. Each club is required to have a minimum membership of five persons.

DELEGATES—Each club has one delegate and one alternate. Either the delegate or alternate is permitted to cast his club's votes at Council meetings.

VOTES—are based on a basic block of five votes per club plus one vote for every five members in the club. For example a club with six members would have five basic votes plus one—total 6 votes. Club with 23 members would have 5 basic plus 4—total 9 votes.

DUES—are $1 per vote per year, due annually at the March meeting. Changes in club rosters should be filed before March 1 with the Secretary each year in order that votes may be allotted and dues billed accordingly.

CLUB CONSTITUTIONS — Each club must submit a copy of its constitution for the Board's approval along with its application for membership in the Council. No club will be accepted for membership whose constitution is in violation of the Council's constitution, charter, by-laws, bag limits, or policy. (All club constitutions must contain a nondiscriminatory clause as the Council is chartered under the laws of the State of New York—membership is open to anyone regardless of race, color or creed.)

COUNCIL AUTHORITY — Since they themselves constitute the Council, member clubs are expected to abide by Council rules and policy. However, the Council has no jurisdiction as to how member clubs organize and govern themselves providing they do not violate Council policy, etc., as stated above. That is, individual clubs set up their own form of government, officers, membership requirements, dues, meetings, programs, etc. The Council will assist when requested.

MEETINGS — are currently held on the third Friday of each month at 8:00 p.m. Upstate and downstate meetings are held concurrently at these addresses: DOWNSTATE: West Side YMCA, 4 W. 63rd St., N.Y.C.; UPSTATE: V.F.W. Hall, Lemoyne Ave., Syracuse, N. Y.

Meetings are open to the public. However, only club delegates or alternates are permitted to vote.

OFFICERS—are elected annually from the member clubs. Officers cannot vote at general meetings—only at Board meetings. When a delegate is elected to office, his club must immediately replace him with a new delegate.

INFORMATION—The Council has available information on diving areas and legislation for most of the East Coast and other places. A scuba training course outline is available to clubs. The Council can supply information on or refer to the proper source for information on books, equipment, equipment repair, air stations, clubs, conservation reports and legislation and other data pertinent to diving.

PURPOSE—The Council's aims and purpose is explained quite clearly in the preamble to its constitution.

NEW CLUBS—The Council suggests that new clubs first decide questions of membership (qualifications and number), dues, officers, meetings, safety rules, committees. Then draw up a constitution to work under incorporating the things they have decided upon. The Council will give personal assistance in the form of a delegate to attend one or more of their meetings if the club so desires.

SPEAKERS — will be sent to interested groups, clubs, etc., when requested. Films may be shown when available. (The Council has been succesful along these lines with Boy Scouts, Men's Clubs, and similar groups.)

MEETS, CONTESTS, ETC.—The Council sponsors the Empire State Underwater Spearfishing Championships annually. This is the New York State Eliminations for the East Coast Championships.

Annual trophies are awarded to members of Council clubs for the following:

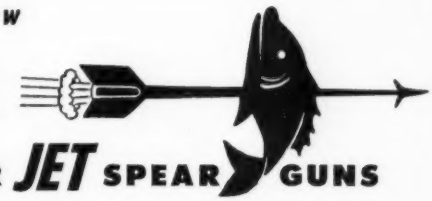
Photography—(1) Motion Picture, (2) Black & White Still, (3) Color Still; Largest Fish; Achievement Award.

ANNUAL TROPHY DANCE—is held in the Fall. Other functions and contests are held at the discretion of the Council.

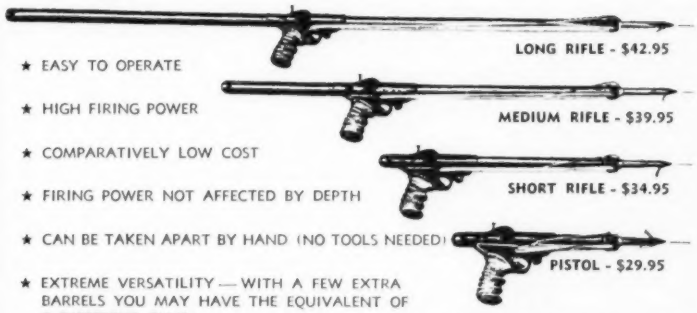
Next month a complete roster of all member clubs will be published.

Introducing the New

MORDEM



.38 CALIBER
UNDERWATER *JET* SPEAR GUNS



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Includes two piece suit, hoods & socks

"HOLIDAYS UNDER THE SEA"

By W. Roy Midwinter

Review by Walt C. Deas

This book has been designed as a soft cover reference book (size 5" by 8") giving details of travel, methods and costs, currency regulations and regulations in force in various countries relating to fishing and scuba diving.

Countries are placed in geographical sequence, starting with Portugal, proceeding along the north coast of the Mediterranean, down the east coast and along the south coast. Islands are also included.

Countries touched in the book include Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Malta, Algeria, Spanish Morocco and Tangier.

All known clubs, air compressor stations, and diving schools are also listed. Particular archaeological sites, water temperature, fish and underwater visibility are given. In this comprehensive underwater guide to the Mediterranean one will find excellent surface and underwater photographs and maps showing where to dive at such places as Costa Brava, Spain, and Balearic Isles, Majorca and Libya. 100 pages. $1.50. Purchase from W. Roy Midwinter, "Woodville," Oulton Cross, Stone, Staffordshire, England.

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184 Bellevue Ave.
Newport, R. I.

Since our last report most of the arrangements for the East Coast Regional Championships have been made by the Connecticut Council who will sponsor the meet for 1958. Only the exact location remains to be determined. Our Rhode Island Eliminations for this year will be held on July 13 and the Council Competition Committee met on May 17 at the Council Headquarters to lay out the plans for this event. At this writing it appears that six to eight teams from the state of Rhode Island will be entered and it promises to be a fine time for all.

At our meeting of the Rhode Island Council for May we had representatives of two new diving clubs present; The Rhody Sea Imps and The West Warwick Divers both of which were impressed with the sincerity of the Council delegates. The services of the more experienced divers in the Council were automatically placed at the disposal of both of the new clubs to aid in any way possible in the successful launching of each club.

A word from The Narragansett Spearfishing Club tells us that a group of six hardy souls led by Charlie Hull dipped into the waves of Narragansett Bay on the morning of May 4th, hindered only by a light fog and miserable drizzle of rain. Aided considerably by new ¼" wet type suits, all the divers reported that it was more comfortable in the water than out. Water temperature was about 42 and air about 48.

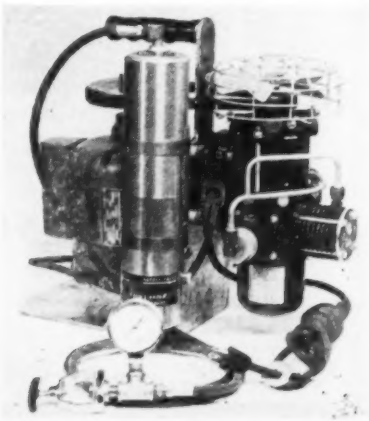
Down in little old Newport a rather interesting project is underway as the result of a series of drownings last year of both fishermen and swimmers in areas not protected by life guards. The Newport Underwater Sportsmen have taken on the job of building and installing about twenty life ring stations all along the world famous Ocean Drive. The first two of these Emergency Life Ring Stations were installed early in February. Much to the chagrine of the Newport Divers, both of these were stolen by vandals within 24 hours after installation. It is hoped that a new type of lock device which requires the breaking of a small glass plate, similar to that of a fire alarm box, will prevent any further vandalism. The project has received the finest publicity possible with the praise and sanction of the City Council and the Local Salt Water Fishing club as well as other sportsmen's groups.

Following fast on the heels of the recent adoption of Divers Flag by the Rhode Island Council and all of its member clubs, the Council authorized the necessary expenditure to print and distribute thru the clubs, 300 posters advising others of the nature and purpose of the new Divers Flag.

Another major item of interest to Rhode Island Divers is the Rhode Island Individual Spearfishing Championships to be held on August 17 at a location not yet decided.

This tournament, with trophy prizes to be given by the R. I. Council, will be open to all resident divers in this state or members of R. I. Diving Clubs. Complete details of this Competition will be sent to all diving clubs in Rhode Island as soon as final plans have been completed.

At the risk of repetition the Council wishes to point out that this column is devoted to the betterment of the sport of skin diving in Rhode Island and as such will welcome reports from any and all on diving activities within the state. Send all correspondence to: John J. McAniff, 184 Bellevue Avenue, Newport, R. I. or direct to R. I. Council Headquarters at 118 Sharon Street, Cranton, R. I.



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WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF SKIN DIVING CLUBS

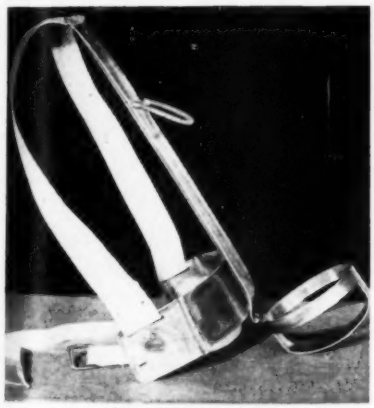
By John Joachims

c/o KAYO, 2939 4th Ave. So.
Seattle 4, Washington

Catching the Northwest Octopus is not easy. These big, sinuous brutes look formidable, but are of a timorous nature, usually hiding in caves, rocks or sea growth. It takes a sharp eye to spot them as their protective coloring blends and changes to suit their surroundings and even their movements resemble the undulations of sea weed. After Mr. Octopus is spotted there is the tough tussle to dislodge him, sometimes virtually impossible if he is of any size and if he procures a vise-like hold on a sunken log or rock. Some divers, while waging a tug-of-war with an especially large one, suddenly wonder just who is pulling whom. The knock-down, drag-out battle really begins when the diver horses the Octo to the surface, which underwater is comparable to wrestling a ring full of greased pigs. But ah—well, there is a strange and wonderful (my wife says morbid) fascination to it, perhaps like watching a cobra or the boss' secretary. At any rate "Octopus Fever" is pleasant, harmless (providing these reports don't get too wild) and thoroughly fascinating pastime.

The big, now world renowned, "Second Annual World's Octopus Wrestling Championship" sponsored by the Mudsharks turned out to be an outstanding event. Fascinated spectators saw 16 writhing beauties (Octopi) pulled out within a stone's throw of where they were standing. Oregon's Holmes stole the show with his 54 pound Octopus, incidentally this was Holmes first go at Octopus wrestling. Team honors went to Tacoma Scubaneers: Chapman, Johnson and Young who pulled out the biggest aggregate poundage of Octopi and subsequently proved their prowess

(Continued on page 36)



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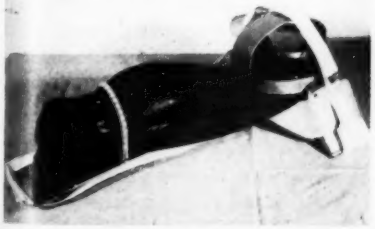

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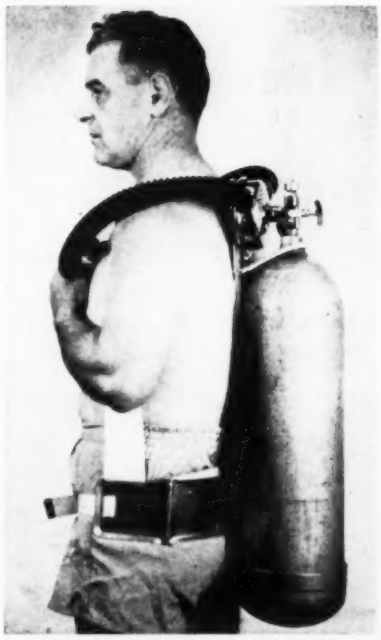

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WASHINGTON

(Continued from page 35)

before the hometown crowd as the scene of the meet was Titlow Beach in Tacoma. This event can also possibly claim one world's record with Merle Wilson of the YMCA divers whose 28 pound Octopus looks like a new record in the women's division. It is reported that Don Tate and Jim Klotz of NURG took over 1,000 feet of film during the meet—so look for a thrilling documentary on the Northwest Octopi soon to be released (we hope) at your own club meeting.

While we are relating tall tales (but true) about the Pacific Northwest Octopi let us retell two stories reported to us. The first one from Bob Williams of the Olympic Lancers in Bremerton. Seems as though one of the Lancers: John Jacobson was strolling out on a dock at Tracyton, gave an indifferent look down into the drink and just happened to see one of Puget Sound's biggest Octopus, big as life in only five feet of water. Jacobson, throwing caution to the wind dived in fully clothed and pulled out, from all reports we can gather, a 103 pound Octopus. This alone not being enough of a feat, Jacobson who broke all unofficial records with this big fellow, decided to keep him and now has him penned under his own dock, where with kindness, care and plenty of starfish, clams, etc., the Octopus seems to be getting larger every day. The Octopus' name is Herman and if he shows up on "You asked for it" the "64,000 Dollar Question" or possibly even doing a soap commercial it wouldn't surprise us in the least.

Another classic Octopus story comes from Henry Simonson of the Mudsharks and could well be titled: "Octopus Catches Diver." Simonson discovered that man is not always the hunter, while lying motionless on the bottom of Puget Sound with a hand net, stalking a small fish for his aquarium, Hank found he was the object of an Octopus' desires, when he felt an encircling of his body and turned to find an octopus of great proportions staring him in the eye.

On returning the following day Hank pulled out the same Octopus and established at that time (four months ago) a New World Octopus Skin Diving Record. On measurement the Octopus was found to be 13 feet from tip to tip and weighed 72 pounds.

In addition to the "Oscoteers" mentioned, there are several others whose names should appear on roster: Lee Norton and Jim Carpenter brought in a 73 pounds Octopus which was put on display at the University of Washington's Oceanography Open House and

(Continued on page 37)

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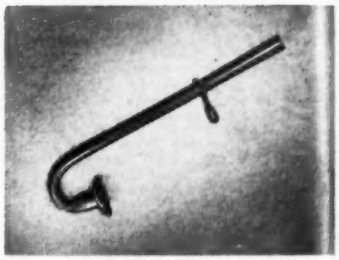

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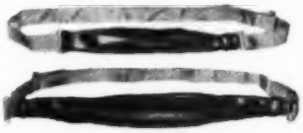

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(Continued from page 36)

Bill Mertz of the Mudsharks took honors with a 75 pound 13½ foot Octo which may well be the official Octopus record.

From the club scene, the Mudsharks have produced some varied and interesting activities in their agenda, including some new Wolf Eel records. Bob Kanton's 51 Wolf Eel record was shattered by John Tallman of the Mudsharks who took a 66", 11 pound 13 ounce Wolf Eel at Hoods Canal. Dale Dean and Dick Klien of the Mudsharks have been sneaking up to Neah Bay again looking for another record Ling—they didn't top Gary Keffler's 53 pound mark, but came back with 40 and 33 pound Lings skin diving. Mack Thompson is also at it again in the salvage department—this time Mack has discovered a prop estimated to be better than 10 feet in diameter. Congratulations are in order for Dick Klein and Dale Dean, two Mudshark men, who are the latest members to be knighted into the Mudshark Royal Order which brings this honorary membership up to six in the Royal Order's three years of existence.

Keep an underwater eye focused on the Olympic Lancers of Bremerton . . . this club, although recently formed, has been tremendously active with intra-club dives and excellent diving reports. Earl Lawrence, head diver in the Puget Sound Navel Shipyard and hard hat diver for twenty years, has started a ten course class in Scuba training at the YMCA. Earl recently attended the Navy's Scuba school in Key West, Florida, where he graduated with honors—he also heads the Olympic Lancers Emergency Team.

Several Northwest Underwater Research Group (NURG) divers have also started an extensive course in skin diving. NURG's next big adventure will be a three day outing to Orcas Island in the San Juans, where NURG members hope to establish a new world's record for just plain fun for all: family and friends, lots of skin and scuba diving, entertainment and good old fashioned skin diving chowder a la San Juan sea life ingredients.

Write when you get any information on Northwest Skin Diving activities to: John Joachims, W.S.S.D.C. in care of KAYO, 2939 4th Avenue South, Seattle 4, Washington.

WOMEN'S PACIFIC COAST CHAMPIONSHIP—JULY 27

All women divers interested in competition in the Pacific Coast Championship on July 27, please contact Kate Miller, 3001 Stanford Avenue, Venice, California.

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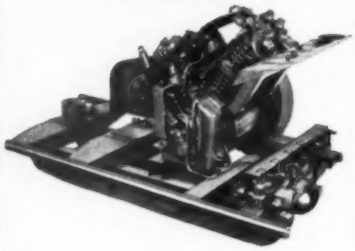

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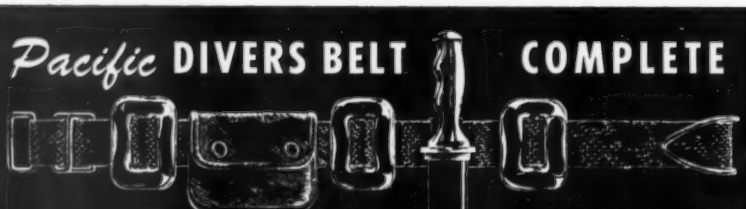

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SCIENCE *for Divers*

By ED GUERNSEY, JR.

Questions arrive daily from S.D. readers pertaining to: oceanography, physics of the sea, chemistry, biology and other allied fields.

Q. How much of the earth is covered by water? A. Approximately 71% of the earth's surface is water.

Q. What is the coldest and hottest temperatures recorded in the sea or ocean? A. The sea's temperature is taken at all depths, however, at surface, the warmest waters were recorded at 96.7° F. in the Persian Gulf; the coldest surface waters were off the coast of Nova Scotia at 26° F. The temperature on the ocean's bottom is approximately 1° C. or 33° F.

Q. How much gold and silver is there in sea water? A. The volume of the ocean is 302 million cubic miles. There is about $93,000,000 of gold per cubic mile, and $8,500,000 in silver. In rough figuring, there is enough gold in the oceans to pave every major highway in the United States with a 24 K surface, and enough silver to put a solid silver roof on every home in the country.

Q. What causes the tides? A. Tides are caused by the pull of the moon and the sun. However, the moon's power is twice that of the sun. The tides are caused by a cosmic force which sets the ocean's water in motion, and this force is completely outside the earth and its atmosphere. This cosmic force is presumed to act impartially on all portions of the earth. Nevertheless, the very nature of the tides is a local matter in any place on earth. This is the striking paradox concerning the tides.

Q. Why does ocean water have so many colors? A. The sea can be every color of the rainbow. It is blue because the sunlight is reflected by the suspended minute particles of the water molecules back into our eyes. Micro-organisms and algae account for various green, yellow and brown hues. Rich plankton deposits can cause the surface waters to be different colors. Deep blue color depicts water almost lacking in life; green coastal waters are the sign of abundant life.

Q. How do Scuba divers benefit marine science? A. One of the first beneficial feats performed was when divers worked with marine scientists on the thermocline layer in the Pacific. Scuba divers have done work for the State of Maine, Marine Biology Research Laboratory, in pedation. Many other divers have contributed much, yet there is a great deal more which can be done.

U.S.A. WOMEN'S OPEN INVITATIONAL—AUGUST 16

Kate Miller, Chairman, Women's Underwater Spearfishing Committee, reports that one women's team from the Southern Pacific Association, California, has announced its intention to attend the first U.S.A. Women's Open Invitational at the Grand Bahamas, August 16, 1958. Also that Mr. Harold Aycock telephoned her recently to report one team is entering from Florida for this event.

SPEARFISHING CONTEST LAGUNA BEACH, CALIF.

Of interest to all Junior Spearfishing enthusiasts will be the meet to be held at Diver's Cove, Laguna Beach, Calif. July 20th, Sunday at 12 noon. The meet will be open to any group of three boys, between the ages of 12 to 15, sponsored by an adult. It will be sponsored by the Laguna Beach Boy's Club.

Trophies will be awarded through the Laguna Beach Chamber of Commerce and local business houses. Awards will be presented for the first, second and third largest fish caught by an individual, as well as the largest aggregate team catch for first, second and third places.

Registration slips or further information may be obtained by contacting the Executive Director of the Boy's Club of Laguna Beach, Mr. D. Bruce Pierce, 175 Coast Blvd. No., Laguna Beach, Calif. or by telephone: Hyatt 4-2535.—D. Parker

CONNECTICUT OPEN SPEARFISHING MEET—AUGUST 17

Applications are now being accepted for the Second Annual Connecticut Open Spearfishing Meet by the co-sponsors, the Connecticut Sea Devils and Underwater Sports, both of Hartford, Connecticut. The meet is open to any resident of Connecticut (male or female) over 18 years of age. Send a check or money order for $5.00 with your name, address and age to:

Conn. Spearfishing Open
1751 Park Street
Hartford, Conn.

By return mail you will receive a copy of the rules, the location of the meet, starting time and briefing times, and a list of the prizes totaling over $500. All applications must be in by August 7, 1958, any fees received after the seventh will be returned—Will Jacobs.

POLLUTION IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

A westerly extension of pollution damage from Los Angeles' White Point sewer outfall near San Pedro has been recorded by the Calif. Department of Fish and Game. The damage has extended to an area near Point Vicente, five miles west of White Point.

Until 1957 this area had a small, but luxuriant, bed of kelp which is now entirely gone. In addition, until last summer the sea bottom was covered with a dense plant growth which is now showing signs of becoming barren; all that remains is a narrow band of low vegetation that lies in 12 to 20 feet of water.

Both inshore and offshore from this zone the rocky bottom is almost devoid of life. The only living objects observed were numerous sea urchins and a few abalones with badly eroded shells and emaciated bodies. This is further evidence that the White Point outfall, like a creeping malignancy, is making its effects felt in a wider area with each passing month. Observations were made by Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game skin divers.

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FULL-SEASON CONTESTS BEING HELD IN OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

If you're planning on spending some time in Ocean City, Maryland this season, you should know about the spearfishing contests. There will be prizes awarded in June, July, August and September for the largest fish speared with and without scuba. There will also be a prize at the end of this time for the most outstanding fish speared, making a total of nine awards for the season.

The spearfisherman must be swimming underwater at the time the fish is speared. The fish must be speared in the waters surrounding Ocean City, or the spearfisherman must have entered the water from a boat out of Ocean City.

All contestants must register at Mumford's Marine Service at 54th and Beach Highway or at Paul's Tackle Shop at 204 St. Louis Avenue. Registration is free, but no catches will be considered unless the diver is registered first.

MIDWEST AIR STATIONS TO BE LISTED

The Illinois Council of Skin and Scuba Divers is making up a list of midwest Air Stations to appear in the Council Paper. The listing will be free. If you sell air, give name and address and whether you sell skin diving equipment. Notify Jim O'Brien, 8542 So. Racine, Chicago 20, Illinois.

STATE COUNCILS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Skin Diver Magazine is preparing a "Policy & Information Notice" that is of tremendous importance to all skin diving Councils and State Associations. To be sure that this notice is received by the proper authority and that immediate action may be taken by the Council we want the current president or chairman to notify us of his name, address, telephone and the legal name of his organization.

The "Policy & Information Notice" will contain important news and announcements that will affect the Councils, Skin Diver Magazine and the sport of skin diving and spearfishing.

A simple two cent post card will do the job.

SIXTH ANNUAL JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS—JULY 20

The 6th Annual Junior Underwater Spearfishing Championship will be held Sunday, July 20, at "Divers' Cove", Laguna Beach, Calif.

We have the Sanction of the A.A.U., and the S.P.A.A.A.U. have appointed Jay Riffe, 4030 West Slauson, Apt. 1, Los Angeles 43, (who once dive in the Junior Events) as Jr. Skin Diving Chairman.

The Laguna Beach Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the First Place Trophies and many local merchants will donate trophies for the event.

We are making every effort to improve on the event this year. We hope that more adult skin diving clubs will make an effort to organize and enter a Junior team this year.

Advanced registration will be one of the changes this year. The teams that are interested must write in or call the Boys' Club of Laguna Beach, 175 No. Coast Blvd., Laguna Beach, Hyatt 4-2535, afternoons 1:00-5:30 p.m. or evenings 7:00-9:00 p.m.—Bruce Pierce

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MINNEAPOLIS SUB-AQUA TROPHY EVENT

The Minneapolis Skin Divers Club is hunting for interested divers to participate in an underwater contest scheduled for July 27, 1958 at Lake Calhoun, Minneapolis. Qualification dates for the Sub Aqua Trophy Event are July 21 through July 26, divers must qualify during this time to be eligible for entry in the finals which will be held on July 27.

Entry fee is ten dollars per team. All entry fees will be set aside for the winning team plus prizes that will consist of well over one thousand dollars for the winners. Daily prizes will also be given.

The contest will consist of an underwater course with five stations. Each team will be composed of two divers. One diver will follow the course, getting his directions from the first station, and working his way to the other four stations by aid of a compass. The second diver will swim above his partner and carry a flag visible to spectators. The course is expected to take thirty minutes to complete.

A trophy will be awarded the winning team. For further details and registration contact: Minneapolis Skin Divers Club, Mike Brion, 3538 Harriett Avenue, So. Minneapolis, Minnesota. Telepohne TAylor 7-3972.

BOY SCOUTS TO HAVE NEW MERIT BADGES

Andy Comeau, a scout master and member of the Halifax Free Divers Club (Nova Scotia, Canada), has suggested a Skin Diver Badge and a Frogman Badge to the Nova Scotia Boy Scout Training Association. To obtain more information about these badges, Ken Margeson, Training Commissioner, will meet Comeau and Ken Hughes, another member of the diving club. Boy Scout tests for the two new badges and their design are now in the planning stage.—Don Chiasson

PAY SCALE FOR THE HARD HAT DIVER

How much is a dive worth commercially? This question was put to the Pile Drivers and Dock Workers Union in Wilmington, California and here is the scale for hard hat divers.

Sixty-five dollars for any day or part thereof to a depth of 50 feet. Beyond 50 feet—

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280 ft. over — $10.00 per foot

When a diver provides his own basic gear the base pay is $85 a day. When insurance and a tender are provided it is $145 a day. When diving requires entrance into a cave or pipeline, the rate is $8 per foot from one to 150 feet and $32 per foot from 150 to 200 feet. (From Underwater Instructor News, Los Angeles County Dept. of Parks and Recreation).

Lawndale, California . . .
SHARKS UNDERWATER ADVENTURERS
By Kathy Conley

On the evening of April 19 the "Sharks" held their Annual Installation and Awards Dinner, the current officers are Larry Herrington, Wallace McArthur, Kathy Conley, Tom Biederman and Glenn Sidwell.

At the Dinner we also made two awards, the Mako Shark Trophy, the highest honor in the Club, and the Lobster Trophy. Both of these awards were won by Art Conley.

We now have a limited number of openings for club membership. Anyone wishing information please call Kathy Conley at FR 5-5888.

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Denver, Colorado . . .

MILE-HI SKIN DIVERS

By Lew Funk

Members made several thrilling ice dives during the winter months and also were the main participants in a search for a drowned baby boy in Swollen Bear Creek. The next club dive is planned for Grand Lake, high in the Rockies, near the Continental Divide.

We regret losing two members, Roy and Edna Scott, to sunny California. We would like to extend an invitation to any divers coming to Colorado to be our guests. Address is P. O. Box 293, Englewood, Colorado.

Easthampton, Massachusetts . . .

AQUATEERS DIVING CLUB

By Shirley Crabtree

The Aquateers was chartered in April of 1955 and has been slowly building up to a total of twenty-three including our Junior Division. Winter classes have been held in a swimming pool in Easthampton and have been in keeping with the Aquateers policy of teaching the sport of diving and to help keep the sport safe. We meet weekly at the pool and have monthly business meetings. Only one of our members, Ray Joly, ventured in the icy waters this past winter.

We are interested in teaching underwater signals to all of the members and would appreciate receiving the approved sets from diving groups.

Dundee, Scotland . . .

DUNDEE UNDERSEA RESEARCH GROUP

By Walt C. Deas

Very little diving has been done here due to poor conditions. Roger Bruce and Dougall Campbell spent one chilly evening searching for a ship's anchor dropped outside the harbor at Grangemouth. The visibility was nil and with only rough bearing to go by they were unsuccessful.

We are glad to have Alan Doyle back with us after his spell in the forces. Alan hopes to try out his new lung within a few days on a large wreck on the West Coast.

During the weekend of June 13, 14 and 15 skin divers of the following clubs travelled to Loch Ness to seek photographic evidence of the Loch Ness Monster, Dundee Sub-Aqua Club, Dundee Undersea Research Group, Edinburgh Sub-Aqua Club, Scottish Sub-Aqua Club and the Scottish Underwater Research Group.

Stoneham, Mass. . . .

BAY STATE AQUA CLUB

By Gerald F. Comeau

At the date of this writing, May 12th we have the following news to present: This organization has affiliated with the Waltham, Mass. branch of Civil Defense. Only registered Scuba divers from this club are being allowed to participate. We are also proud of the fact that our "Divers Flag" leaflet which we submitted to "Popular Boating" magazine was accepted and printed in their May issue.

The Intercity Rod & Gun Club of Cambridge has voted to allow us the free use of their clubhouse and facilities in recognition of the work we are doing to promote understanding and goodwill between the sports of spearfishing and line fishing.

Northeast Council President "Dick" Myers was our guest speaker at our May monthly meeting. "Dick" gave a very encouraging and well presented speech which was well received by all in attendance.

Congratulations to the following members who were married during May and June: Ed McColgan to Dorothy Dowd; Club President Wayne Comeau to Sylvia Garaffo; and Fred Messina to Carolyn Bradley. Also congratulations to Bruce and Ann Crossman on the expected arrival of another "skin diver" due in August.

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Santa Rosa, California . . .
SONOMA COUNTY REEF RUNNERS, INC.
By Al Hart

On May 4th the club officially started its summer activities, with a joint dive and competition with the Marin Skin Divers. Don't look now but our boys made a clean sweep of the bay at Clam Cove above Fort Ross. "Mit" Tufts took first with 28 pounds of fish, Dick McCandlass second place with the largest, a 9 pounder and 23 pounds of fish; Ken Adams came in with 10 ponds of fish, for fourth place.

Even though the water temperatures are about 49 degrees off the coast many of the fellows have turned to 3/16 inch wet suits . . . usually they buy the kits and help each other put them together. John Wion at the last meeting showed the group some short cuts in making the suits.

Bremerton, Washington . . .
OLYMPIC LANCERS
By William A. Fisher

We have been reading with interest all the letters from all over the country concerning the membership of those under 21 in diving clubs. Our club, the Olympic Lancers of Bremerton, Washington, has 20 paid members, and of these four are still in high school and two haven't made 21 yet, but even so, they are quite competent as divers. We regard a teen-aged member as an adult because we feel that age has absolutely no bearing on his ability as a diver, but that his temperament and levelheadedness in the water are more important, by far, than age.

I would like to mention a member who we feel very fortunate in having in the Lancers. He is Earl Lawrence, the head diver at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard here in Bremerton. He has been hard-hat diving for some 20 years. Last summer the Navy sent him to the Scuba School at Key West, Florida and graduated eighth in a class of about 40. At present, he is conducting a class in Scuba at the local YMCA.

Chicago, Illinois . . .
DEPTH CHARGERS
By Jim Paglin

At our last meeting on May 12, 1958, we held our election of officers, which came out as, President, Bob Luck; Vice President, Bill Teeple; Secretary, Jim Paglin; Treasurer, Joe Fugiel, and Sergeant-of-Arms, Al Teeple. We also took in a new member, Blaine Kaywood.

We are now on 24 hour call for the Illinois Council of Skin and Scuba Divers, for rescue and search work in the Chain of Lakes area in Northern Illinois.

We are still looking for new members and I would like to hear from any divers in the Chicago area. All correspondence should be addressed to Jim Paglin, 4232 N. Octavia Ave., Norridge 34, Illinois.

Newport Beach, Calif. . . .
NEWPORT HARBOR SUBMARINERS
By John Miller

As the winter drew to a close we found John Shick at Corona del Mar battling to land his 74-lb. bat ray. The past two months have seen several members on various trips to Mexico. Blair Smith and Bill Silzle had good look with big fish in their shrimp boat trip around the Gulf. The biggest fish Blair speared was a 110-lb. Grouper sans-lung and Bill shooting fine underwater pictures.

Another gulf trip saw "Doc" and John Evans, Dick Barnett, my wife Joan and myself diving from Kino Bay to Guaymas leisurely dining on such delectables as fish, lobster, turtle, clams and oysters on half shell. Dick speared and landed a 197-lb. sting ray.

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Springfield, New Jersey . . .
SPRINGFIELD SKIN DIVERS
By Kent Palcanis

The Springfield Skin Divers Club was formed for those boys from Johnathan Dayton Regional High School who were interested in the rapidly growing sport of skin diving. This is the first of all teen-age club in N. J. Mr. Hunchar, Mr. Barclay and Mr. Romeo are aiding us in running the club. The club now has 22 members, and many more want to join.

We have just recently been elected into the New Jersey Council of Skin Divers, to which we send Ron Humer, and Bob Bennett as our representatives of the club. The second and fourth Saturdays of each month we go for a one hour swim at the Orange Y.M.C.A., and learn the methods and the precautions in the sport of skin diving.

We give wholehearted thanks to Fred Beisel for demonstrating, and letting us use his lung at the Orange Y.M.C.A.

Lexington, Kentucky . . .
"MERMEN OF KENTUCKY"
By Estill Lyons

Diving in Kentucky has been at a stand still. The spring rains has caused visibility in all lakes, rivers, quarries to be very near zero.

Jim Williams and family have gone to Florida on a spearfishing trip. We sure hope they have better weather and water.

Our best diving months are July through March. We have put on several demonstrations for various groups and have trained a lot of new members through the winter months, but with spearfishing season now here, we feel justified in not offering a training program that would keep us from the sport we love.

We believe in training during winter, enjoy ourselves during the summer.

Rockaway, New York . . .
TRIGGER FISH SKIN & SCUBA DIVING CLUB
By Edmund H. Fox

Hello, all you other water bugs, meet the Trigger Fish. We are a fairly new club, having been in existence only a few short months. Although we're a young club we are a growing and active one; we are members of both the Empire State Underwater Council and the Sportsman's Council.

We have had a pool all winter where we have been going every Monday night to train under the expert instruction of Tom and Terry. Late in May Tom and myself made the first dive of our season, the water was dirty and cold. Later in the season we hope to be seeing some of the clubs in the Lake George area to do some diving with them. We have a good crew, low dues, our own compressor and good diving waters. What more could you want?

Rockford, Illinois . . .
GREATER ROCKFORD LUNG DIVERS, INC.
By Jack Egler

Eight divers from Rockford participated in a Treasure Hunt Dive sponsored by the Madison Diving Club of Madison, Wisconsin. It was really great fellows.

The Greater Rockford Lung Divers were designated as Team number two of the Illinois Underwater Recovery Teams.

The assigned area for the Rockford Club was the counties of Boone, Winnebago, Ogle, Stephenson and JoDavis.

On Saturday, April 27 ten divers from Rockford assisted the Sycamore Police Department in searching nearby quarries for the body of Maria Ridolph. They were to continue the search on Sunday but her body was discovered near Galena late Saturday afternoon and positively identified Saturday night.

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Glendale, Calif. . . .

DIVIN' DEVILS OF GLENDALE

By Jim Rawlins

First of all, we would like to extend an invitation to all divers in the Glendale-Eagle Rock area to join us for a season of diving activities. Thanks to the International Sportdivers Ass'n. we now have the use of a 70-foot motor yacht for our weekend excursions to Catalina, so don't miss the fun!

At present we are holding our meetings at 2773 Broadway, near Colorado, in Glendale. Call Lee Ettleman at CItrus 4-9653 for information. Anyone from 16 to 60 is eligible for membership and half of the club is made up of the fair sex.

Bill Matthews has been appointed Safety Commissioner and will supervise qualification tests as well as instruction of "pollywogs."

Los Angeles, Calif. . . .

KELPTOMANIAC UNDERWATER HUNTING CLUB

By Ken Swan

It has been quite some time since our last report to "Skin Diver." Our club, now in its fifth year of existence, has, however, remained very active. It is a rare weekend when at least a few Kelptomaniacs are not seen at Southern California diving areas.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new members who have entered the club in the last few months. They are: Keith Lumsden, Dick Du Puis, Dr. O. K. Douglass, Russ Brown and Bob Burnside. All of the new members have proven to be top divers and are an asset to the club.

Kansas City, Missouri . . .

KANSAS CITY FROGMAN CLUB

By June Poplar

At last, Missouri has legalized spearfishing, and just in time for the Memorial Day weekend. In the state's five largest lakes, underwater spears, bows and crossbows can be used for buffalo, carp, gar, redhorse and sucker.

Our first group dive is May 30th at Bull Shoals, to get in practice for forthcoming Texas and Oklahoma spearfishing meets.

A recent successful body recovery has brought favorable publicity to the Kansas City Frogman Club, Inc. A call went out for frogmen about midnight May 15th, and 45 minutes later Bill Crabb, the first of six members to arrive at the Kansas City, Kansas, lake, had found the body of a 14 year old boy, a non-swimmer.

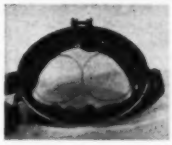
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

HALIFAX FREE DIVERS CLUB

By Don Chiasson

We made several trips to Duncan's Cove. On one of these excursions, about a dozen lobster pots lost during a winter storm were recovered. The rest of the time was spent spearfishing. The only fish to be seen were sea wolves and lump fish. These are easy to spear, so much time was spent looking for more difficult game, namely cod and whiting. Andy Comeau was about the only diver to see and get near a cod but he missed it. By the time you read this report, conditions should be excellent as the whiting and cod should start invading the shallower water again.

Doug Grant has been busy taking underwater color photos of several varieties of seaweed for the Nova Scotia Research Foundation. Together with a couple of friends, he also salvaged three hundred dollars worth of shell cases and radiators from the Clare Lilley, a wreck just off Black Rock Point.



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AQUA GHOSTS

By Bob Gilmore

With the recent interest shown towards the use and recognition of the Divers Flag by many of the east coast clubs, and little, if any, shown on the west coast, the "Aqua Ghosts" of Torrance, California, decided to do something about it.

Last month at one of our weekly meetings a poster was drawn up by member Doug Hough and submitted to the printers. Last week they received 1500 copies of the poster and distribution was started immediately. The Aqua Ghosts, unable to find a sponsor, paid for the cost of printing and distribution from the club treasury.

A poster was placed on every boat possible in the Los Angeles harbor, which was considerable. Copies also went to the "Power Squadron," all of the diving shops, boat and motor sales rooms, rod and gun clubs, individual boat owners, and boat manufacturers of the area. A few of these posters can be sent out on request if they will be used for the promotion and recognition of the Divers Flag.

Those distributed were accepted with some apprehension by a few, and some strong words by a few others. But it was very encouraging to see so many boat owners read the poster, immediately tear out the lower right hand corner which was perforated, and place it in their billfold.

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Atlanta, Georgia . . .

ATLANTA SKIN DIVING CLUB

By Beverly Christiansen

The following is a list of the new officers of the Atlanta Skin Diving Club. These officers took office on January 1, 1958.

President, Dan Brisendine; 1st Vice Pres., John Peters; 2nd Vice Pres., Jack Faver; Secretary, Beverly Christiansen; and Treasurer, William J. McKune.

The mailing address for the Atlanta Skin Diving Club will remain the same: 145 Luckie Street, N. W., c/o YMCA, Atlanta, Georgia.

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Shreveport, La. . . .
ARK-LA-TEX DIVERS
By Bill Steen

Diving trips for our club have been few and far between this year. The heavy rains have muddied our lakes and streams, and the Gulf has not been in much better shape. The two trips to Pensacola that have been made were marred by a couple of near mishaps. These mishaps have caused us to put in new qualifications for membership in our club and also the re-doing of our safety rules.

Dan Miller, one of our members, has bought a new compressor and will fill tanks for a buck and a half. Anyone needing tanks filled may contact Dan through the club.

By the time this report is published our annual membership drive will be over. We hope that our drive will boost our membership to over fifty members. Any divers in the area may find us at the local YWCA every Thursday night from 7:30 to 9:30.

Tacoma, Washington . . .
TACOMA SCUBANEERS
By Mike Sorber

Activity has been at a high level during the past weeks. Ling Cod in the over 35 pound class have been taken by new president Bob Kroeger, retiring president Jack Watson, and the writer. Watson's was a local record at 45½ pounds.

The club was also fortunate enough to win first place in the recent octopus wrestling contest, Leo Chouinard, Tom Johnson and Ed Young making up the winning team. Thrown in for variety have been several highly successful crabbing expeditions and plenty of just plain exploring. On the less pleasant side, club volunteers were instrumental in recovering the victims of a double drowning at Fort Lewis.

Boise, Idaho . . .
HELLDIVERS II
By John Arrington

Along with some welcome advice from the Bay State Aqua Club, some sweat and worry and a lot of running around we successfully set up and manned a booth at the Boise Boat Show. The club gained valuable publicity, spread good will, promoted the Divers Flag, and had a good time and gained experience with meeting the public and answering their many questions.

The summer season promises to be very exciting for the divers who are going to be in town. An abundant supply of air and warm water will help improve the diving outlook in Boise. A good sized portion of the membership will be leaving for summer jobs and military training though. So until September keep one eye open for sea serpents and the other on feminine scenery on the beach.

Agana, Guam . . .
SOUTH SEA SEARCHERS
By Jeanne Helwig

We have quite a sizeable membership due to the ideal diving conditions which exist practically the year round. At the present time water temperature is 85 to 88 degrees. Visibility is about 200'.

The club has two 30' drop boats which enables divers to get to some of the more lucrative spots. We also have about 20 regulators and tanks for our members' use.

Five new spearfishing records were set in the past few months. Ray Jensen, 59 lb. Porgie and Jewfish 155 lbs.; Herb Ward, Moray Eel 57½ lbs.; Carl Helwig, Parrot fish 70 lbs.; John Burt, Tungesin (Humphead) 92 lbs.

The main reason larger fish are not taken is that very few divers have guns large enough to handle them.

Three divers have had their strings of fish taken lately by sharks. The sharks appear to be more active lately, possibly they are breeding this time of year? Anyone else having similar trouble? Let us know.

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Spokane, Washington . . .

SPOKANE SKIN DIVERS CLUB

By John Blake

Skin diving is becoming increasingly active in this area due to extremely warm weather. Water temperatures are soaring and scrap fish are abundant.

A wet suit project is being undertaken by the club. This will be a custom-made full suit including spine insulator, gloves, and boots. Approximately fifteen members are taking measurements and making patterns for their suits.

A spearfishing trip was made to Port Townsend in May. Six divers entered the Port Townsend Pile Divers spearfishing meet and thirteen pounds of fish were taken. Abundant fish and clear water was experienced by all divers during the weekend.

A co-ordination dive with the Civil Defense at Newman Lake was received enthusiastically by both skin divers and Civil Defense officials. The club will station two divers in each of four Civil Defense boats at the Diamond Cup race at Lake Coeur d'Alene. The world's fastest hydroplanes will be competing at speeds over 100 m.p.h. At these excessive speeds accidents can be disastrous to boats and drivers alike. Civil Defense teams will be located in the immediate area in case of unforseen emergencies. These teams have been drilled to precision in the rescuing of victims.

Montclair, N. J. . . . .

NEW JERSEY SKIN DIVING CLUB, INC.

By Barb Kidder

Since the onset of good weather, most of our members have been diving at Franklin Quarry and the shore not to mention the good time had by all at the Dutchess Diver's Treasure Hunt at Sylvan Lake, N. Y. Congratulations to you guys who made it a worthwhile trip.

Underwater Sports, Inc., of Orange owned and operated by two of our good members, Jim McNamara and Nick Ciallella are doing a terrific job at Franklin Quarry. A store has been opened for renting lungs and equipment and for filling your tanks and also your stomach with hot dogs and hamburgers. This quarry is certainly making a name for itself and it sure gets crowded down at 30 feet. One of our new members is lucky enough to have his own 62 foot cabin cruiser. Needless to say, Stuart Holtzmann is quite popular with the rest of the club.

A noticeable change has taken place in our pool every Tuesday night—females—looks like they have found a good thing. Sure took them long enough.

We still have 5 openings left in our club. Active membership is limited to 35. Interested persons please contact President Dick Kidder, Longhill Road, Great Notch, N. J., Clifford 6-2341 or the Montclair YMCA.

Dumont, New Jersey . . .

SEA SHARKS

By Harvey Weinstock

Our motto is Safety, Sport, and Salvage. Advising our ten members is Reverend "Bud" Jordan, a Paterson Diving Jets transplant. Larry Rosen is President, Harold Rubin, Vice President; Jerry Winkler, Treasurer and yours truly, Secretary.

Our first club project was to make wet suits, which we completed in several days of off and on work. Most of our diving has been done in Hamburg Quarry which has generally good visibility. A few members went to Montauk Point two weeks ago but had no luck in spearing any fish.

Correspondence from individuals or clubs will be received gratefully and anyone interested in joining our club can contact me at 50 Garfield Street, Dumont, New Jersey. Phone DUmont 4-4540.

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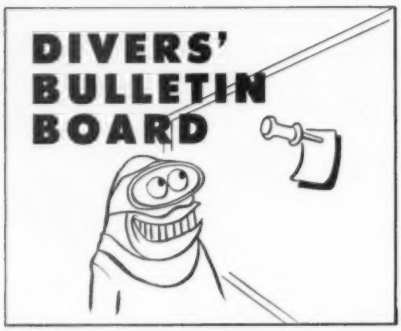

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SEEK POSITION as skin diving instructor or guide. 8 years experience off Florida and Caribbean. Familiar with all underwater activities, equipment, boat handling. Maker of successful huge capacity spear guns. 28 years old with family; personable; very suitable to clientele catering; references. Will relocate. H.J.M., 848 Ida Street, New Orleans 19, La.

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New Orleans, La. . . .

BAJAOS SKIN DIVING CLUB

By Burnie Dodge

We have been very active this spring with fine weather for diving in the Gulf of Mexico. Diving in Lake Pontchartrain has been curtailed by poor visibility. We have had two trips planned for every week-end lately and as long as there are enough men interested we will keep it up.

There have been plenty of fish out in the Gulf. Warren Williams speared a 95-lb. Jew fish at Timbilier Rig and on the same trip Frank Gray got a 28-lb. Jack fish. Frank bent his spear about 30 times on large Jew fish, but didn't land any this trip. The rest of us have speared numerous Sheepshead, small Grouper, Lemon, and Red Snapper.

The club has finally decided to invest in a large compressor, which will be a very wise investment. We hope to have it in operation by the time of the Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo in July, to which we are all looking forward.

Anyone interested in going on a trip with us contact me at 740 East William David Blvd., Metairie, Louisiana.

Miami, Florida . . .

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SEA DEVILS

By Larry Jasper

Climaxing Sea Devil activities for the past two months was a first place trophy in the Miami Open Tournament held at Homestead, Florida on May 25th. Five clubs from the greater Miami area participated. The fish were donated to Mercy Hospital.

During the Easter holidays, the Club went to Bimini, a nearby member of the Bahamas, and our second charter trip of the year. Diving conditions and temperature were again perfect.

Imposing on routine, the Club has recently joined the Miami Glug Glugs and Miami Morays in promoting club-group excursions.

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada . . .

OTTAWA UNDERWATER EXPLORATION CLUB

By Ken Martin

The Ottawa Underwater Exploration Club has been in existence for two years and we thought it was time to make ourselves known.

Club activity has consisted of monthly dry meetings and monthly wet meetings at Plant Bath pool. Several members have occasionally been engaged in the search for bodies, outboard motors, cash registers, etc.

We, in the Ottawa area, are rather fortunate to be fairly close to clear water lakes. The St. Lawrence also holds an attraction in that it has several wrecks in its clear waters.

Gordon Richardson, a cousin of one of our members, has recently returned from an around-the-world cruise on the famous "Yankee." It is hoped that the 18-months' cruise will have rendered a number of coloured slides of the adventure.

Bremerton, Wash. . . .

OLYMPIC LANCERS

By Bob Williams

The Olympic Lancers diving club held its second inter club diving meet in May. The trophy was won by John Hoffmann with a 14 pound cod.

This inter club meet is held every four months, the trophy is a traveling trophy. This meet and trophy keeps the club members on their toes practicing all the time.

After the meet Williams and Dishman went after an octopus. They found one under the pilings at Manchester. It was about 16 feet across. After about an hour of pulling and trying to get the octopus to move out of the pilings they had to give up because they ran out of air. They plan to try again soon.

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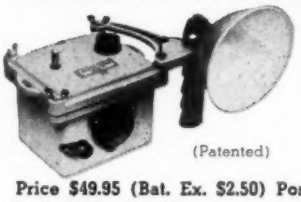

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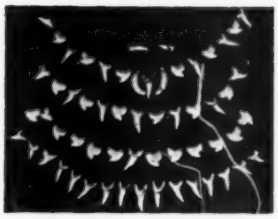

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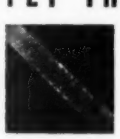

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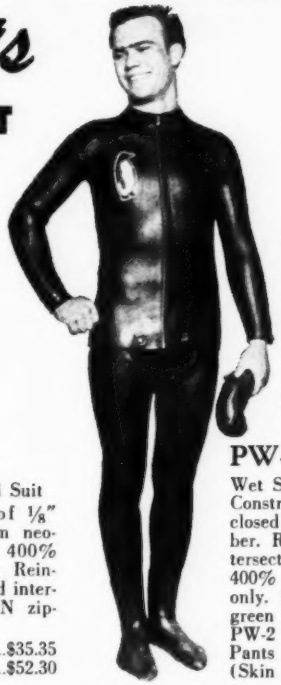

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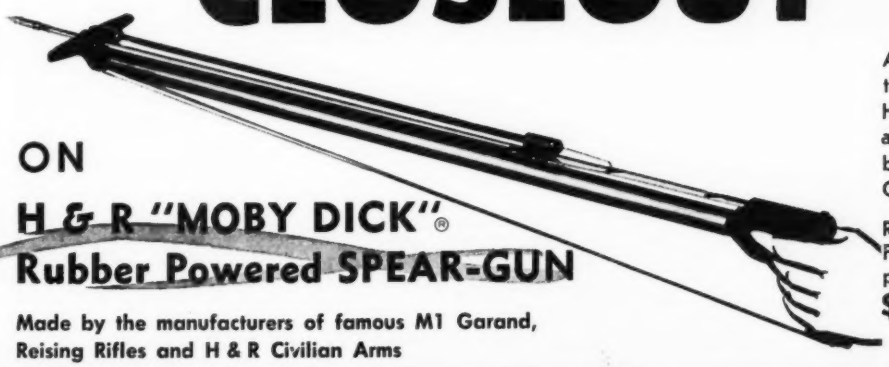

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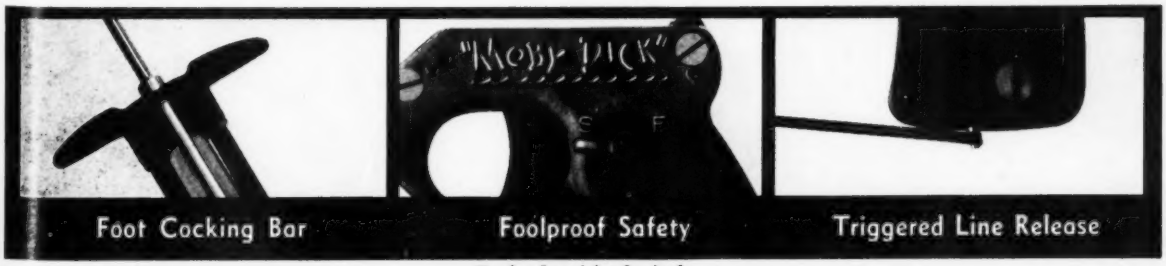

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